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# HISTORY OF BISHOPTHORPE.

1216 to 1904.









West Front of the Archbishop's House at Bishopthorpe.

HISTORY  
OF THE  
PARISH AND MANOR-HOUSE  
OF  
BISHOPTHORPE

TOGETHER WITH AN ACCOUNT OF THE PRE-REFORMATION RESIDENCES  
OF THE ARCHBISHOPS OF YORK.

BY  
JOHN R. KEBLE, M.A.  
LATE VICAR OF BISHOPTHORPE, PREBENDARY OF WISTOW AND CANON OF YORK,  
AND CHAPLAIN TO THE ARCHBISHOP.

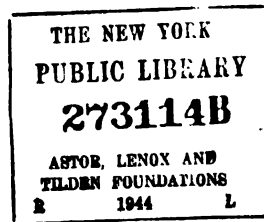
EDITED, WITH A PREFACE  
BY  
THE VERY REV. A. P. PUREY-CUST, D. D.  
DEAN OF YORK.  
AUTHOR OF "THE HERALDRY OF YORK MINSTER," &c., &c.

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LEEDS:  
RICHARD JACKSON, 16 & 17, COMMERCIAL STREET.

1905

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Hefner 25 Feb. 1944



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*The impression of this Work  
is limited to 250 Copies.*



## EDITORS' PREFACE.

**I**T has been a labour of love to edit the following pages, for I have a deep affection for the memory of the Author and a genuine admiration for his work. The bulky portfolio which has passed into my hands containing notes and letters, testifies to the infinite care and labour which he devoted to the task which he set before him, of writing a history of Bishopthorpe. Certainly he spared no pains to obtain information from every available source, and Dr. Auden, my fellow-labourer in this good work, can bear witness to the absolute authenticity and accuracy of all his quotations from those who had the best claim to be consulted on the matter.

It might seem at first sight that the little village of Bishopthorpe and its one stately residence was not a very large theme on which to write a book; but he has elicited so many details concerning the personages, manners and customs, and events of days gone by, that the pages are replete with interest; and he seems to bring before us in his simple but graphic language the characters of those who were no mean actors in the great historical drama of the past, as well as to elaborate the ordinary details of the daily life of generations before us, which enable us to realize who and what manner of men lived amidst circumstances and surroundings so different to our own.



Indeed, he shows us that Bishopthorpe was the focus of very much that affected the condition of Church and State, and enables us to become acquainted with the real dispositions and notions of many whose names are simply mentioned on the pages of history, and whose share in the great events which decided the condition of the Church and Nation we have hitherto scarcely realized. Truly his industrious and faithful pen has invested scenes, so familiar to some of us, with an interest which they have never had before, and will no doubt draw many who are hitherto strangers, to visit a place which they would otherwise have passed by in their search for what is attractive and sensational.

The previous Church, built by Archbishop Drummond, according to the taste of his days, for £3,500, and embellished with a new west front by Archbishop Harcourt at the cost of £1,500, was never worthy of its position, and had gradually become dilapidated, and owing to the insecure condition of the river bank, liable to slip into the stream. In 1899 it was pulled down, with the exception of the west wall and bellcote, and the present Church was erected by subscription on the west side of the high road, from designs by Mr. Hodgson Fowler, and consecrated on S. James's Day of the following year. His Grace the present Archbishop (who had already beautifully restored the Chapel in the Palace) added the Tower as a thank-offering on the completion of the twenty-fifth year of his episcopate.

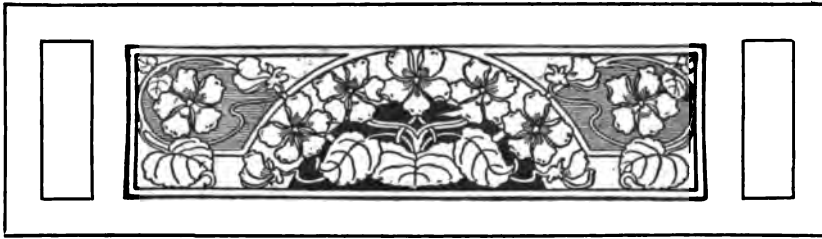
The late Canon Keble took a lively interest in this good work, but died shortly after its completion, on S. Matthias' Day, 1903, and his body was the first that was laid to rest under the east wall of the new and beautiful House of God.

That spot will certainly acquire a more solemn and reverent recognition from all who visit the "God's acre" which surrounds the new and beautiful Church. Even that grassy mound, ever bright with the floral offerings of those who loved and knew him while on earth, and beneath which rests all that was mortal of one of the truest servants of the Lord, whose bright example, loving friendship, and faithful ministrations, will never cease to provoke the grateful recognition of those who knew him here on earth, and who hope to be with him in the paradise of God whither he has passed on before us.

ARTHUR P. PUREY-CUST.

DEANERY, YORK,  
*September, 1905.*





## PREFACE.

THE following pages have grown out of two Parochial Lectures given in 1897 and 1898. My chief object throughout has been to provide an account of the old Village and Manor House for the Parishioners of Bishopthorpe. This will, I fear, make some parts of the book tedious to the general reader, if it should chance to fall into his hands; but I believe that the annals of every parish, however small, are worth recording. It is good for people to have some knowledge of the place where they were born or live, and of the Church where they worship: it gives an interest which deepens their affection for their home. Every ancient parish has contributed its share in making England what she is, and has a record which is part of our national history.

"Every parish," says Bishop Stubbs, "has a register, every person has a parish, every manor has a lord, and every lord has had a share in the struggles by which our national life has become what it is."

The traditions and memories that cluster round a Village Church help us to realize the continuity of the Church in England, which through so many centuries has provided teaching and ministrations to our predecessors, whose bodies for the most part rest in the old churchyard. The history of persons and events is too easily forgotten. Local traditions last for a time—some old parishioner remembers and talks of them; he is often no scholar,

(1) Bishop Stubbs's "Lectures," p. 473. Third Edition.

and at his death his information dies with him. Not only each parish, but each family should have its annals. The old family Bible is the natural and right place for the family register. In it can be entered not only births, baptisms, confirmations, marriages and deaths, but any other important event. What the father should do for his family, the parson should do for his parish. One of my predecessors, Canon Dixon, set me the example, and I have tried to continue his work, partly by arranging it in order, and partly by adding such new material as I have been able to discover.

The greater part of the additional Chapter on the Pre-Reformation Residences of the Archbishops of York was printed in the "Church Times" of February 25th and March 4th, 1898.

I have to acknowledge a special debt to the following sources:—

(1) A manuscript volume, containing notes on the "History of Bishopthorpe" by Canon Dixon, formerly Vicar of Bishopthorpe, now in my possession.

(2) The MSS. of Archbishop Sharp, who left to his successors three large volumes, containing a mass of useful information.

Vol. I has the "Statutes of York Minster."—A brief History of the City of York.—Lists of the Deans, Chancellors, Treasurers, Sub-Deans, Archdeacons and Canons.—An account of the Vicars Choral, Chantry Priests, and of S. Sepulchre's Chapel.—A History of the Archbishops of York from Paulinus to Lamplugh, with their ancient Estates and Patronage.

Vol. II has an account of the Estates belonging to the Archbishopric, and of the Rents issuing from them, together with the yearly Pensions due to the Archbishops from the appropriated Rectories of the Diocese.

Vol. III has a History of each Parish in the Diocese, including Nottinghamshire.

They are mainly based on the well-known MSS. of James  
~~Torre the great~~ <sup>Yorkshire</sup> Antiquary (1650-1699), who wrote a  
~~ster and of the Chapter, and made Catalogues~~  
~~tors, and Vicars of every Parish in the Diocese,~~  
~~her valuable information. These are contained~~  
~~s, which were given by Sharp's executors to~~  
~~ter of York, and are still in their possession.~~  
~~Sharp family of not having given compensation~~  
~~representatives of the author, but this appears to~~  
~~as buried in Normanton Parish, where there~~  
~~memory.~~

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—

ven such brief history of the several Residences  
f York as I have been able to collect from  
commend this volume to the care of my  
of York, requesting them to insert in it any  
est attaching to Bishopthorpe, or any other  
e See of York shall become possessed, which  
: want of such record. Alterations of house  
ns to either, will soon cease to be traced,  
a be preserved.

C. T. CANTUAR."

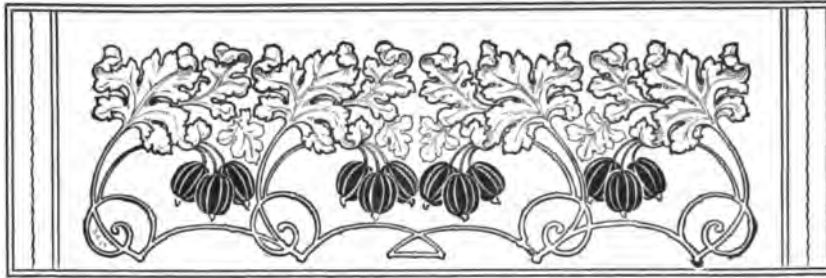
1863.

ot been neglected, and the volume supplies  
for the history of the old Manor-House.

ARAGE,

JOHN R. KEBLE.





## CHAPTER I.

### THE PARISH.

**B**ISHOPTHORPE is a small village in the Ainsty of York, three miles South of the Cathedral City. The area of the township is rather over 720 acres: its boundaries are the River Ouse on the East, the Parish of Acaster Malbis on the South, that of Copmanthorpe on the West, and the Township of Middlethorpe on the North.

The richness of the soil in the Vale of York is said by antiquaries to have made it one of the earliest seats of agriculture and settled life in Britain, while the Ouse has always been one of our chief water ways, affording a route for the first pioneers of trade and civilization, as well as for the invader. William of Malmesbury<sup>1</sup> speaks of the ships from Germany and Ireland, which found their way to York, built just at the limit of the tide, and describes the city as "ever exposed to the fury of the northern nations"—*furori aquilonalium gentium semper obnoxia*—especially of the Danes.

(1) "Gesta Pontificum." Prologue to third Book.



The earliest inhabitants of Yorkshire lived on the hills, and no relics of the pre-historic races, whose tombs are found on the Eastern Wolds, have been found in the Parish, nor are there any British remains. The name "Ouse" is derived from an old British (Keltic) word meaning "Water," and at least four rivers in England are so called.

The whole district belonged to the British tribe of the Brigantes, who were finally conquered by the Romans about A.D. 79. The conquerors made Eburacum, which may have been already an important stronghold, the capital of Britain. They were not long in building their cities, camps, and roads in all the country round, and the old Roman Road to Tadcaster (Calcaria) runs just outside the western boundary of the parish. Eburacum became the imperial city, and for three centuries the sixth Legion occupied the garrison. The Emperors Severus and Constantius died there; and Helena, the wife of the latter, and mother of the famous Constantine, may have been a native of the city. York is full of Roman remains, of which there is a fine collection in the Museum. The Romans built houses not only in the city but in the neighbourhood, and there is in the lower room of the Museum a Stone Altar,<sup>1</sup> found on Bishopthorpe Moor in 1865. It is 18 inches high, and quite plain, with no inscription. An old parishioner tells me that there is a tradition that there was a Roman Road to the spot leaving the York Road near Middlethorpe corner, and marked by old oak trees, some of which remain.

(1) Cf. Raine's "Handbook to York Museum," p. 46, No. 30.



The Ouse looking south from the terrace at Bishopthorpe shewing the Cross erected by Archbishop MacLagan on the site of the old Church.



If it be true, as is said,<sup>1</sup> that there was a chain of Roman forts along the river every two miles from York to the Humber, there must have been one in the parish; in any case there was one two miles beyond at Acaster, as the name indicates. Up and down the river in those days sailed the Roman warships, as well as the large merchant vessels carrying wine, pottery, furniture and luxuries of all kinds, and returning laden with corn, which in those times was one of the chief exports of the country.

About the year 410 the Roman Legions were withdrawn from Britain, leaving the country at the mercy of the fierce Angles and Saxons, who came, not like the Picts and Scots to plunder and return, but to stay. The North held out against the invaders longer than the South, but was conquered by the Angles during the sixth century, and formed two kingdoms of Bernicia and Deira. The latter consisted chiefly of what is now Yorkshire, and York became its capital. In 588 there was war between Æthelric, King of Bernicia, and Ælle, King of Deira, the father of Edwin. It was just about this time that Gregory saw the Yorkshire slave boys in the market-place at Rome;<sup>2</sup> they were probably captives taken in this war, brought by English slave merchants. I mention this because they must have been taken from home in a slave-ship down the Ouse, looking longingly at our banks as they passed by, and little thinking that by God's Providence they were to be the unconscious instruments of the re-conversion of their country to the

(1) Cf. Raine's "York" (Historic Towns), p. 15.

(2) Cf. Bishop Browne: "Augustine and his Companions," pp. 17-20.

faith. Only forty years later their king, Edwin, was baptized by Paulinus in York, and the Minster was begun.

It is impossible to say when our village was actually formed. Two Anglo-Saxon Stycas (*i.e.* small copper coins) of the time of King Ethelred, 866, were found near the old Church in 1843;<sup>1</sup> but this is not enough to prove the existence of an English village at that date. The word "Thorp," meaning "Village," is not English, but Scandinavian; and it is more probable that we owe our origin to the Danes than to the Angles. They invaded the North and took York in 867, and by 875 had conquered the whole of Northumbria. The city still retains many traces of them in the names of its streets, such as Coney Street—(Konung), King Street; and Goodramgate, called after Guthrum, a Danish chieftain. The neighbourhood abounds in Thorps; besides our own there are Copmanthorpe,<sup>2</sup> Thorp Arch, Clementhorpe, and Middlethorpe, all of them probably Danish settlements.

The four large Common fields, which were enclosed in the eighteenth century, no doubt date back to Saxon times, probably almost to the foundation of the village, for the Danes soon adopted the Saxon land system. These fields were open, divided not by fences but by narrow balks of turf, and belonged to all the members of the village community.

We have a great battlefield, not indeed in the parish, but only a few yards out of it, just across the river. It was on the Fulford Ings that the battle of Fulford was

(1) Dixon's Note in Parish Register of Baptisms.

(2) Copmanthorpe, *i.e.* the thorp of the chapman or merchant. Thus also Copenhagen was formerly Copman-haven, the harbour of the merchant.

fought, on the eve of S. Matthew's Day, September 24th, 1066, against the invading forces of the traitor, Tostig, and his ally Harold Hardrada, King of Norway. They landed from their ships at Riccall and marched up the river banks, meeting the English forces in the Water Fulford Ings. The men of Yorkshire were defeated, and the city was surrendered to the enemy. The victory was, however, a short lived one; a few days later the conquerors were defeated by King Harold, in the still more famous battle of Stamford Bridge, when Tostig and Harold Hardrada were both killed.

Our next authority on the history of the parish is the Domesday Book. This great survey was made by William the Conqueror in 1086, with the purpose of re-adjusting the taxation of his subjects on a fair basis. It still exists at the Public Record Office in London, in two large volumes, which contain a survey of all the counties of England, except Northumberland, Durham, Westmoreland and Cumberland. Yorkshire retains the Danish division into the three ridings, the West Riding being subdivided into ten districts called "Wapentakes," another Danish word, meaning "the touching of weapons," and called after the armed gathering of the freemen. Our parish lay in the Ainsty Wapentake, which is the district bounded by the three rivers, the Ouse, the Wharfe and the Nidd. It is difficult to be certain which of the several Torps (or Thorpes) mentioned are ours, as there are several without any distinguishing prefix; but I give those allotted to us by Mr. Scaife in his new edition<sup>1</sup> of the Yorkshire part of Domesday Book.

(1) Published in the "Yorkshire Archæological Society's Journal."

The entries rendered in English are as follows:—

(1) (ROBERT MALET'S LANDS.)

Manor, in Torp the Church of Christ. Gamel had one carucate for geld.<sup>1</sup> Land to half a plough. Now Robert has it and it is waste. T.R.E.<sup>2</sup> it was worth 20 shillings, now 3 shillings.

(2) (RICHARD SON OF ERFAST'S LANDS.)

In Torp Christ Church, two carucates of land for geld. Land to one plough and a half. Richard son of Erfast has it and it is waste. Nevertheless it renders 8 shillings.

These short notices do not at first sight seem to tell us very much, but they really contain a good deal of information. We gather from them that Gamel<sup>3</sup> was the last Saxon lord of the village, and that he was, after the Conquest, dispossessed by the Norman, Robert Malet. Whether there was a Church here at that time we cannot tell. The reduction in the value of the land was due to the terrible vengeance of William, on the North, for rising against him and joining the Danes in taking York in 1069. In the next year nemesis came swiftly, "When," says Canon Raine, "the vengeance of the Conqueror suffered

(1) *i.e.* taxable.

(2) The accompanying table may explain the measurements of land here used:—2 bovates=1 virgate=20 acres; 4 virgates=1 hide or carucate=1 full plough. T.R.E., *i.e.* *Tempore Regis Edwardi*; in the time of Edward the Confessor an oxgang (vide infra) generally corresponded to a bovat.

(3) There were several Gamels about this time, and it is difficult to be certain about this one. He was probably the Gamel, son of Orm, a large landowner in the time of Edward, who was treacherously killed by Tostig at York in 1064. His son Gamel headed a rebellion in York in 1065. Cf. Freeman's "History of Norman Conquest," II., 489 (third edition).

scarcely a single household to remain between the Humber and the Tees."<sup>1</sup> Torp suffered with the rest.

Robert's father, William Malet,<sup>2</sup> came over with the Conqueror from Normandy, and fought at the battle of Hastings. He was made the first High Sheriff of Yorkshire, and was among the few spared by the Danes in 1069. He seems to have died in the following year, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Robert, who lived chiefly at Eye in Suffolk, where he founded a priory. He was Chamberlain to Henry I, but took Duke Robert's side and was killed<sup>3</sup> at the battle of Tinchebray, 28th September, 1106. His estates were confiscated, but Eye was afterwards restored to his sister's son, Rannulph, Earl of Chester. The rest of the property seems to have passed to Hugo de Malbys, whose family gave the name to the neighbouring parish of Acaster. By the thirteenth century Eye had come to them as well, for they are mentioned in Kirby's Inquest<sup>4</sup> as "Malbys of the Honour of Eye." Their property in this parish passed, along with Acaster, to the Fairfax family, when in the early part of the fourteenth century Thomas Fairfax married the heiress, Elisabeth Malbys; and from them, in the 18th century, to the predecessors of the present Lord Wenlock, who sold the last remaining portion of his land here in 1898.

Erfast, or Herfast, or Arfastus, was a man of some mark in his day. He had been Chaplain to the Conqueror in Normandy, and came to England with him in 1066.

(1) "Fasti Ebor:" p. 146.

(2) Cf. "Yorkshire Archæological Society's Journal," vol. xiv., p. 43.

(3) Cf. "Yorkshire Archæological and Topographical Journal," vol. iv., 144.

(4) "Surtees Society," vol. xlix., p. 24.



William of Malmesbury, who in the reign of Stephen wrote a history of the English Bishops, speaks of him as an illiterate man;<sup>1</sup> but he was evidently a favourite of William, who gave him large estates in Yorkshire, and in 1068 made him his first Chancellor. He became Bishop of Elmham in Norfolk in 1070, and in the same year helped to consecrate<sup>2</sup> Lanfranc Archbishop of Canterbury. In 1075 he removed his See to Thetford, and is said to have died in 1084. It is interesting to note that although a bishop he was married and had a son, who inherited his estates, including the property at Bishopthorpe. Canon Dixon<sup>3</sup> says that he was succeeded by the Paganells or Paynells, the family that gave its name to Hooton Pagnell in Yorkshire, and Newport Pagnell in Bucks. About the end of the twelfth century, Frethesant, the second daughter and co-heiress of William Paganell married<sup>4</sup> Sir Geoffrey de Luttrell, and the property passed to their children. This accounts for the land in the parish, bought by Archbishop Gray in the thirteenth century, being described as of "The Fee of Luttrell."

The Luttrells were a well-known Yorkshire family, their arms<sup>5</sup> are to be seen in the central west window of the vestibule to the Chapter House in York Minster.

By the twelfth century the parish had come to be known as Thorp-super-Usam or Thorpe-on-Ouse, a name by which it was occasionally called at a much later period, though it was gradually superseded by those of "Andrew Thorpe"

(1) "Gesta Pontificum," Lib. II., Roll Series Edition, p. 150.

(2) "Ibid," p. 39.

(3) Dixon "MSS.," p. 6.

(4) "Surtees Society," vol. xciv., Ped. Fin. John, p. 87.

(5) Cf. Purey-Cust's "Heraldry of York Minster," I., p. 169.

or Thorp-juxta-Eboracum, viz.: Thorp-by-York. In this century a considerable part of the land here was given to Kirkstall Abbey, as we learn from its Coucher Book,<sup>1</sup> which records that "in the reign of Henry II., William Painel (Paganell) gave six bovates of land in Thorp-on-Ouse to the Monks of Kirkstall, to be theirs for ever."

Not many years later, on 1st September, 1194, Roger Fitz Warner de Eggeburg "quit claimed to the Abbot of Kirkstall half a carucate of land with the appurtenances in Thorp-super-Usam, and in consideration thereof the Abbots and Monks gave Roger three cows and two oxen." This gift was confirmed in 1202 by a charter signed by Richard de Barcaston, the son of Warner, who was, I suppose, the brother of the above-mentioned Roger. The charter is found in the Coucher Book of the Abbey, and from it we gather that Richard had inherited the land from his mother, for the words run—"namely, all the land which was of the maritage of Ysabel his mother in Thorp." The date is given, which is very unusual in charters of this period, as follows:—"Hanc præsentem cartam dedi ego Rīc predictis monachis anno iiij regni regis Joh̄is, coram domine Joh̄e Norwīc' Episcopo, et aliis Justiciariis Dñi Regis itinerantibus, in vigilia Sancti Andreæ apostoli: et in eodem die recepi ab eisdem monachis iiij sōl de firma illius anni."<sup>2</sup>

(1) "Leeds Thoresby Society," vol. viii., pt. 1.

(2) John de Gray was Bishop of Norwich at this time. He was the uncle of Walter de Gray, Archbishop of York.

(3) I owe this information to the kindness of Mr. W. T. Lancaster; and it enables us to make a link in the history of the land, and to understand how it was that, a few years later, Archbishop Gray bought the property in the village from Kirkstall Abbey.

It was probably about the end of the twelfth century that the Knights Templar, who were largely endowed in Yorkshire, became lords of the manor of Copmanthorpe. They built a Preceptory there just on our borders, in the field which still bears the name of Temple Garth. They also possessed an adjoining farm and mill in this parish, on the site of what is now known as Temple Hill Farm. There are still some mill-stones in the garden there, and one at the vicarage taken from the same spot. Canon Dixon adds that the kitchen hearth-stone of the house<sup>1</sup> built by Mr. Wade at the south-west end of the village in 1836, was brought from Temple Garth, and has an inscription on its underside: no doubt "the frail memorial" of some worthy of the Order of Knights Templar.<sup>2</sup> The Order was deprived of all its possessions in Yorkshire in 1310, and the Preceptory at Copmanthorpe was visited by the Commissioners in the following year. The property seems to have been given or sold to the Malbys family, from whom it passed by marriage to the family of Fairfax,<sup>3</sup> who sold it to the Vavasour family; for in the sixteenth century we find Sir Thomas Vavasour conveying<sup>4</sup> to certain persons "the Manors of Temple Copmanthorpe and Copmanthorpe alias Coppenthorpe . . . . and 3 watermills, with lands there, and in Bishopthorpe, Acaster, &c." About 1660 Sir Thos. Widdrington writes: "Not long since it (Copmanthorpe) belonged to Sir Thos. Vavasour, Knight Marshall."

(1) Now occupied by Mr. Gowthorpe.

(2) Dixon "MSS.," p. 21. I fear that this has now disappeared.

(3) Cf. Widdrington's "Analecta Eboracensia," p. 135.

(4) From the "Pedes Finium," 1597-1599. Cf. "Yorkshire Archæological Society" (Record Series), vol. viii., pp. 72-126.

Many stones and fragments in the walls and cottages of the village of Copmanthorpe are evidently taken from the old religious house, and may still be seen.

In the year 1202, the Priory of S. Andrew was founded in York on the Fulford Road, outside Fishergate Bar, by a certain Hugh Murdac. He endowed it with rents and land, among which were seventeen oxgangs in our parish. Whether there was a Church here before this we cannot tell, but it is pretty certain that the Prior and Monks of S. Andrew built the Church, which lasted till the eighteenth century, and dedicated it to their patron saint. The only trace of it remaining is the Early English Piscina, which I found lying in the vestry, and which has now been built into the south side of the sanctuary of the new Church. This led to the village being called Thorpe S. Andrew or Andrewthorpe. Having built and probably endowed the Church, the Prior and Monks became patrons of the living. The first rector known to us was instituted in 1231, by name Arnold de Berkeley,<sup>1</sup> a Gloucestershire man, as his name indicates. He was a noted pluralist, more engaged in State than in Church affairs, and is not likely to have resided here. He became Baron of the Exchequer in 1264, and died two years later.

We now come to the event which has given to our village not only its present name, but a special character of its own, and a place in the history of the North of England.

It was in 1226 that Archbishop Walter Gray bought the property from Kirkstall Abbey. The deeds of purchase

(1) Cf. "Bristol and Gloucester Archæological Society," vol. xvi., p. 2.

and the names of the witnesses may be read in Canon Raine's edition of "Gray's Register."<sup>1</sup> They are taken from the Reg. Album (ij., 87. 90.) and show that he bought from the monastery one carucate of land. This seems to have carried with it the manorial rights, and some think that there was already an old manor house and chapel on the present site of the so-called palace. At the same time, to make the property more complete, he bought rather more than an acre, in what is now called "The Valley," to the north of the old Church walk, from Robert Bustard.<sup>2</sup> The Bustards were a well-known family, and among the largest landowners in the neighbourhood. Their names occur again and again in documents relating to land in this parish and Middlethorpe. Bustardthorpe was a considerable hamlet to the east of the York Road, somewhere opposite the Middlethorpe Manor Farm,<sup>3</sup> but it has long since disappeared. Middlethorpe was so called because it was half-way between Bishopthorpe and Bustardthorpe.

Walter Gray chose his site well. He was doubtless attracted by the pleasant village of Andrewthorpe, with its beautiful trees, and was glad to acquire a new country seat, within so easy reach by road or river of his head-quarters in the cathedral city.

This may well be the place to say a few words about this great man, to whom we owe so much, and who deserves to be much remembered here.

(1) "Surtees Society," vol. lvi., p. 328.

(2) "Ibid," p. 192.

(3) This farm was built by Mr. Champneys in 1840. The field opposite was then still called "Bustardthorpe." Mr. Champneys sold the property to the Hon. Egremont Lascelles in 1863.

Born of a noble family, which still exists, he was educated at the University of Oxford. In early life he became the close friend and supporter of King John, who loaded him with preferments,<sup>1</sup> and whose Chancellor he became 1205-1214. He was consecrated Bishop of Coventry<sup>2</sup> and Lichfield in 1208, and in 1215 was translated to Worcester. The See of York had been vacant since 1207, the King, as was his wont, refusing to allow the Chapter to elect, in order that he might appropriate the large revenues. At last, in 1215, he was prevailed to nominate Gray for the vacant post. The Chapter refused to elect him, being anxious to have Simon de Langton, the brother of the Archbishop of Canterbury, as their head. John appealed to the Pope, Innocent III, who took Gray's side and insisted on his election, as well as on the immense fee of £10,000. The Archbishop of York received the Pall at Rome, and returned to England in time to be present at Runnymede, when Magna Charta was signed. He was found then, as at other times, on the side of the King. After the death of John in 1216, he became an equal favourite with his son, Henry III, whom he anointed King. He was not only a great Ecclesiastic but a great Statesman, and twice when Henry was absent abroad he was made Regent of the country. "In every important event," says Canon Raine,<sup>3</sup> "which took place in the history of the nation, Gray was more or less concerned." He died

(1) Cf. Raine's "Fasti Ebor:" p. 281.

(2) Other Bishops of Lichfield, who have become Archbishops of York, are—Richard Neile, 1632; Accepted Frewen, 1660; and the present Primate, 1891. S. Chad, in 669, moved from York to Lichfield.

(3) Raine's "Fasti Ebor:" p. 287.

in 1255, having ruled the Diocese for forty years. His acts bear witness to his energy in the Diocese and beyond it; "he found the province, to which he was translated, a barren wilderness; he left it a fruitful garden."<sup>1</sup> He was also a great builder, and a munificent benefactor to the See, founding the Prebendal Stalls of Wistow and Stanwick, and giving several Benefices, as well as plate, jewels and vestments to the Chapter for the benefit of the Minster. Besides the Manor House at Bishopthorpe, of which the existing Chapel is a fragment, he built York House, for three hundred years the London residence of the Northern Primates, and the West-front of Ripon Minster. His greatest monument, however, is the noble South Transept of York. There on the east side in S. Michael's Chapel he was buried, where his tomb still stands. He is the first of the Archbishops whose acts remain in the Register at York. They cover the whole of his episcopate excepting the years 1215-1224, and have been edited by Canon Raine. Having bought this property, he became Lord of the Manor of Bishopthorpe, a dignity which has belonged to the Archbishops of York ever since.

By 1241 Gray had built the Manor House and Chapel, of which an account will be given later. He also possessed other property in Bishopthorpe, besides lands in Bustardthorpe, Naburn and Middlethorpe, all of which he gave before his death to his brother, Robert Gray reserving to himself and his successors, only the Manor House and its belongings.

Part of the land had belonged to the Priory of S. Andrew in York, and along with this he bought the

(1) "Ibid," p. 279.



Archbishop Gray's Monument in the South Transept of York Minster.





advowson of the living, which Walter Giffard, his successor, granted to the Priory of S. Clement's on the death of the Rector, Arnold de Berkeley. This Priory was a Benedictine Nunnery, founded by Archbishop Thurstan in 1130; it stood to the east of Clementhorpe, not far from the modern Skeldergate Bridge. The Abbess and Nuns retained the Patronage and the Rectorial tithes with some land in the Parish until the Dissolution of the Monasteries, when they were seized by the Crown. The first Vicar, William de Cayningham, was instituted in 1286. A list of his successors will be found on a later page, in the table which shows that the patronage returned to the Archbishops in Archbishop Blackburn's time, who in 1729 recovered it after an alienation of nearly five hundred years, by giving Brafferton in exchange to the Crown.

By a deed<sup>1</sup> dated 22nd March, 1241, Archbishop Gray conveyed the house and gardens and the rest of the property to the Dean and Chapter of York, who were bound to deliver it over to the Archbishop, for the time being, on a payment of ten marks annually for the salary of the Chantry Chaplain. It was a wise precaution, and perhaps natural for one who had been the intimate associate of King John, for it was a common practice of the monarchs in those times to seize Episcopal Estates when there was a vacancy (and sometimes when there was not), on account of their large revenues. The arrangement still continues: as soon as an Archbishop dies, the Dean and Chapter enter on possession, and thanks to it, Bishopthorpe has been preserved to the See, whilst so much of the Archiepiscopal property has been lost.

(1) Printed in full, Gray's "Register" (Surtees Society), p. 192.

The Dean and Chapter nominated and maintained the Chantry Priest, whose duty it was, by Gray's bequest, "to celebrate Mass in the Chapel of Thorpe S. Andrew for the souls of John, late King of England, and of him the said Archbishop, and of all faithful deceased." He probably also assisted the Vicar in his duties, and lived in the Chantry House,<sup>1</sup> which stood in what is now the vicarage garden, close to the south side of the old Church. It is marked in old ordnance maps, and was only pulled down in 1822 by Mr. Vernon Harcourt. A large stone still marks the site. A list of the Chaplains is given in Torres' "MSS.," and will be found on a later page.

Under the feudal system all land was owned nominally by the King, and local proprietors were considered his tenants. The country was divided into what was called "Knights' Fees," consisting of a varying area of land, the annual value of which was £20. The holder or tenant of these was bound in return to do homage to the King, and to be ready to serve him in war when called upon. It was very important, therefore, for our monarchs to have exact accounts of lands and landlords throughout England, and these Surveys or Inquests supply much valuable local information, and to them we naturally turn to see what light they throw upon the history of our own parish.

"Kirby's Inquest" is such a survey of the county of York made for this purpose for Edward I, by the King's Treasurer, John de Kirkby, in the year 1284-5, not many years after Walter Gray had bought the Manor of Thorpe. The earliest copy of this Inquest is in the Registry of the Dean and Chapter of York, and has been printed by the

(1) Torres' "MSS.," f. 328.

Surtees Society. We find in it the following record:—<sup>1</sup>

"*Thorp Andrew*.—In this town there are 4 carucates of land, of which Robert Bustard holds 2 carucates of the King 'in capite,' at a rental of 4 marks per annum; and the Archbishop holds 10 oxgangs of the fee of Luttrell; of which Robert Holdebert holds 6 oxgangs of Richard Malebys of the honour of Eye; and the Prior of S. Andrew's, of York, holds 17 acres of the same." The same volume<sup>2</sup> of the Surtees Society contains a copy of the Knights' Fees in Yorkshire for the year 1302-3, which gives almost the same particulars as the preceding, except that Robert Holdebert seems to have relinquished his 6 oxgangs to the Archbishop. It runs as follows:—

"In Thorp Andrew there are 4 carucates of land, of which Robert Bustard holds 16 oxgangs. Thomas,<sup>3</sup> Archbishop of York, holds of the King 'in capite,' paying a rent of 4 marks for all. Thomas, Archbishop of York, holds 10 oxgangs, of which 6 are of the fee of Luttrell, and 4 are of the fee of Malebis of Eye. Also the Prior of Saint Andrew's and several others hold 6 oxgangs of the fee of Malebis of Eye, &c. &c."

It is difficult to reconcile this with the Domesday record; but if we compare the two, we must suppose that Robert Malet's land had passed to the Malbis family, and that Richard son of Erfast's two carucates were divided between the Bustards and the Archbishop of York. The extra carucate I do not know how to account for.

(1) "Surtees Society," vol. xlix., pp. 23-24.

(2) p. 217.

(3) Thomas de Corbridge, Archbishop 1300-1304.

In 1385, while Richard II. was in York on his way to Scotland, a sad event took place "in the fields of Bishopthorpe,"<sup>1</sup> which is best recorded in Canon Raine's words: "A quarrel began between the retainers of Sir John Holland, the King's half brother, and those of Sir Ralph Stafford, the son and heir of the Earl of Stafford. One of Holland's servants was killed by an arrow, and when his master heard the news, he rushed wildly out of his lodging, eager for revenge. Young Stafford, who had nothing to do with the brawl, unhappily came in his way, and was at once killed. The slayer fled to Beverley for sanctuary, and the King deprived him of his offices and lands, and banished him from the kingdom. Holland's mother, the fair maid of Kent, was so troubled at the disaster that she took to her bed and died in four or five days. He was afterwards pardoned at the intervention of the Duke of Lancaster."<sup>2</sup>

I have discovered little else worth relating in the history of the parish during the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, save in connection with the Manor House, whose story is told in a later chapter. Probably there was little to record in the quiet life of the little village. The "Inquisitiones post mortem," preserved in the Record Office, give us the names of various landholders, chief among whom were the successive Archbishops and the Bustards, whose property passed eventually by marriage to the Clifton<sup>3</sup> family. In

(1) Drake's "Eboracum," p. 105.

(2) Raine's "York," p. 77.

(3) "Surtees Society," vol. lvii. "Register of Corpus Christi Guild," p. 34. In 1484 Ralph Clifton granted the Manor of Bustardthorpe to Miles Wilstrope, Esq., of Wilstrope.

1432, Margaret, widow of John de Clifton, is mentioned as holding land at Bishopthorpe, as well as at "Bustardhall and Middlethorpe." The "Pedes Finium" give an account of the transfer of land between various persons during this period, but I have failed to discover in them anything of special interest.

In Gray's time, or soon after, the village began to be called Bishopthorpe, though the older names of Andrewthorpe or Thorpe S. Andrew clung to it for many years. In the Archbishops' Registers before the Reformation it is almost always called "Thorp-juxta-Eboracum," Thorpe-by-York. The earliest use of "Bishopthorpe" that I have come across is in "Yorkshire Inquisitiones" of 1275, where it is spelt Biscupthorp. The various methods of spelling the name which occur in various documents before the seventeenth century, show how little regard our ancestors had for any rigid uniformity in this respect. It is often spelt in different ways in the same document.

Leland in his interesting book of six years travel through England in the reign of Henry VIII, came to York, and left the city by the Fulford Road on the other side of the River. He writes: "From York toward (Cawood) by the length of three mile mervellus good corne ground, but no plenty of wood in near sight. In the middle way I saw hard on the right hand a veri fair large Maner of the Bishops of Yorke called Bishopsthorpe."

The great changes of the sixteenth century were probably less felt in Bishopthorpe than in many places. The villagers never saw Wolsey in his pomp and magnificence,

(1) Leland "Itinerary," vol. v., f. 91.

for he was never here; and his immediate successors were advanced Reformers, who would not have much difficulty in impressing their opinions on their own small parish. There was no religious house to be sacked or despoiled by the agents of Henry VIII, and the Archbishops succeeded in retaining the Manor House, while most of their other residences were alienated from the See. Pontefract Priory owned some ten or twelve acres in the parish, as appears from a rental<sup>1</sup> made at the time of the Dissolution of the Monasteries. It is not unlikely that this land was part of the spoil obtained by Archbishop Holgate, and the same with which he endowed his hospital at Hemsworth, to which it belonged until the end of the last century. The Clementhorpe Priory House and Land, with rights of fishing in the River, were granted to Edward Skipton in 33 Henry VIII, and seem to have passed to Sir A. Darci, and from him in 1543 to Richard Goldthorp, an Alderman of York.<sup>2</sup>

The Chantry in the Chapel was abolished, along with all similar endowments, in the reign of Henry VI. The following is a copy of the certificate issued by the King's Commissioners<sup>3</sup> in 1548:—

“There is no preist founde in the seid parishe of Bussopthorpe for assistaunce in serving the cure besydes the vicar, having housling<sup>4</sup> people to the number of one hundred.

(1) Now in the Record Office.

(2) Cf. “*Pedes Finium*,” in Yorkshire Archæological and Topographical Association Record Series, vol. ii., pp. 103-105.

(3) Archbishop Holgate, Robert Chaloner, Thomas Gargrave, and Henry Savyll.

(4) Housling people, *i.e.* Communicants (Saxon *husel*, The Blessed Eucharist).

Anthony Swynebanke, incombent,<sup>1</sup> of th' age of xl yeres, hath of the Kinges Majestie an annuall pension of *iiij* *li*, over and besydes the proffitts of the said chauntrie.

Goods, ix *s*; Plate, xiiij onces di., parcell gylte.

The yerely value in annuall rent, with other profits, vij *li*, xiiij *s*, iiij *d*. Coppiehold nil.

Wherof resolutes and deductions by yere, nil."<sup>2</sup>

The Chantry House, with garden, croft, and meadow was sold to one Walter Wolffete, July 25th, 1551.<sup>3</sup>

We should like to know whether any of the parishioners joined in the Pilgrimage of Grace, or the other great Yorkshire risings; and whether Parson Preston used the new English Prayer Book on Whit-Sunday, 1549, and what his congregation thought of it; or of the change back again to the Latin services, when Mary succeeded Edward; but alas! no one of them has recorded his impressions of those changeful days. By a stroke of good fortune Bishopthorpe just escaped being granted to one of Elizabeth's favourites in 1577, as I have related later in the history of the Manor House.

The discovery of the Gunpowder Plot in 1605 must have caused much excitement here, if local tradition be true that Guy Fawkes was born in the Chantry House. "The house opposite the Church," says Gent, "is said to be the birthplace of Guy Fawkes." The famous conspirator was educated at S. Peter's School, and his father

(1) *i.e.* of the Chantry.

(2) Cf. "Yorkshire Chantry Surveys" (Surtees Society), vol. xcii., p. 376.

(3) Torres' "MSS.," f. 328.



was a Proctor in the Archbishop's Court, and the register of his baptism may still be seen in S. Michael-le-Belfry Church.

Both James I, and Charles I, stayed here as guests of the Archbishops more than once, and must have been known to the villagers by sight. Which side our parishioners took in the great Civil War is not recorded. The Manor House was unoccupied after 1642 for four years, Archbishop Williams having fled to Wales.

We do not read of any fighting actually within the parish, but there was plenty within sight and hearing. In 1644 the Scots' contingent of the Parliamentary army was encamped at Bishopthorpe and Middlethorpe, whence they assisted in the blockade of York. A bridge of boats was made over the Ouse, and there was constant communication with the troops quartered on the other side of the River at Fulford. In the next parish of Acaster Malbis we read that the Scotchmen "ate all the sheep, kine, and swine to the value of £2,000;" and the landlord, Lord Fairfax of Gilling, found it necessary to forgive his tenants a whole year's rent in consequence. Three years later the Archbishop's house and property were sold to Colonel Walter White, who became Lord of the Manor, and lived here till the Restoration, while the vicarage was occupied by a Presbyterian minister, Mr. Ellwood.

The Archbishops of York have been Lords of the Manor, with this brief interval of 1647-1662, ever since

(1) Cf. Sir C. Markham's "Fairfax," pp. 139-144.

(2) Cf. "Fairfax Correspondence," vol. iii., p. 210.

Walter Gray's time, though since 1882 the estates have been administered by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners.

The old Court used to be held twice every year, in April and October, but is now held in October only, preceded by a "view day." The fact that it is called "Court Leet" as well as "Court Baron," shows that it once had criminal jurisdiction, with the power of life and death. The boundary between Bishopthorpe and Acaster, in the Acaster Lane, is marked as "Gallow Gate," and an adjoining field is known as "Gallow Field."

The earliest records of the Court that I can discover, are contained in an old book at the Palace, which consists of loose sheets of paper sewn together, beginning at the wrong end. It is much injured by damp, and the writing is in parts very difficult to read. It contains an account of the proceedings of the Court from 1617 to 1639, sometimes in Latin, but more often in English. The list of the Jurors is always given, and generally the names of the Assessors and of the Parish Constable, with the "pains and penalties." The Court exercised its jurisdiction over the Manor, with special regard to the Copyholders, whose surrenders and admittances formed a great part of the business. Fines were inflicted, generally for letting cattle stray or for neglecting hedges and ditches; but there are still traces of the greater powers of the old Court Leet. In 1622 several boys were presented for "playing at the cross bones on the Sabbath day contrary to the statute," and fined sixpence each. Publicans were fined sometimes for "not affording ale when it was required," sometimes for not selling it at the regulated price, which in 1640 was one penny per quart. There are several cases of assault and

slander, and a common accusation is that of "harbouring" strangers or relations without permission. There seems to have been a strong objection to the ducking stool, for there are several complaints of the town being without one "for punishing of scoldes," but in spite of complaints and even of fines, none was provided. The earliest list of jurors in 1617 is as follows:—

Jacobus Godson	Georgius Headley
Georgius Annotson	Georgius Bullock
Thomas Stockdale	Thomas Pinder
Geo: Earbye	Stephanus Beckwith
Jos: Pulleyn	Ričus Myers
Petrus Lester	Ričus Jackson
Henr <sup>s</sup> Lester	Georgius Handson
Guido Ferryman	

The book is worth study, for it helps to give a quaint insight into the old village life in the seventeenth century.

The later Court Rolls are in the keeping of the Archbishop's Secretary, at York, who acts as Steward of the Manor.

The Church retained its discipline until the middle of the last century, not only for the Clergy but for the Laity, and offenders were liable to be presented at the annual Archdeacon's Visitation, as is shown by the following extracts from the Records<sup>1</sup> in the Diocesan Registry at York.

(1) Printed in the "Yorkshire Archæological Journal," part lviii., p 228. By Mr. Scaife.

1575. Theye want the two tomes of the Homilies, Erasmus' Paraphrase, the table of the Tenne Commaundmentes, a lynnene clothe to the table, with a cover; the Queen's injunctions. The chauncell is in great decaie: it is to be repaired by the Queene, Mr. Turner, for his wiffe, Mr. Jackson and Sir Wm. Fairfax. Thomas Haxoppe's wife a skold, and James Wicliffe's wyfe litle better. Mem:—to wryte unto the sheryfes of ye cittie of Yorke—that the said Jane [wife of Tho: Haxopp] may be punyshed, viz.: to be caryed throughe the cyttie of York tomorrowe [Aug: 20] in the markett tyme, upon the thewe' heretofore used in this behalfe. And afterwards upon Sunday next to make a Recognycion of her offence in Busshoppe-thorpe church, in servyce tyme, declaring whome she hath offended by and with her tonge, and ask them forgyvenes in such manner and forme as shalbe [appointed].

1590. Against the churchwardens:—They wante a byble and a comunyon booke; the parishioners are neglige[n]te in commynge to evenynge prayer, and in sendinge their youth to be cathechysed. Henry Newsteade for slepinge in servyce time—ordered to confess his falte in the parish church.—Christ: Moyser, for talkinge in servyce time: to make a declaration of his offence, after service be ended, before the minister, the churchwardens, and eight other persons.

(1) *i.e.* "custom."

1594. Trinity, Micklegate, parish — Henry Wilkinson refuseth to pay his cesmente to the repair of Bushopthorpe church, amountinge to 16*d*. Thomas Smith of Dringhowses, refuseth to pay 12½*d*., cessed to the repaire of Bushopthorpe church, for his arrable and pasture ground. Sept: 23, Thomas Smyth alledged—that the grounds wherfore the said assessment was made time out of man's memorie hath bene and yet is part and parcell of the demeanes and groundes belonging and apperteynyng to the mannor of Dringhouses. Against Tho. Bushell, esq., and Cuthbert Fairfax of Acaster, farmers of the rectory:—The chancel of the church is in great decay. Thos. Lougher, clerk, sequestrator. Fairfax undertook to make proof that he is discharged from the repairing of the said chancell. John Goodyere, of Middlethorpe, Thos. Taite, of the same place, and Margaret Cotes, of Bishopthorpe, widow, refuse to contribute to the repaire of the church. Thomas Lougher, minister there, haith nether sequestracio nor admissio to serve the cure.
1596. The chancell is in great decay.
1615. Against John Pulleine and Geo. Bullock, churchwardens:—They want a Bible of the new translation, with a cloth and a cushion for the pulpit; and the churchyard fence is not well maintained.
1619. Against Thos. Smoughton and Robt. Vase, churchwardens:—Their churchyard and church are all ruinous and like utterly to be ruined by reason of

the undacion of the water—ordered to repaire the premisses.

1623. Peter Leedes presented “for not making and mainteyning his part of the churchyard fence.” William Greasworth<sup>1</sup> and Richard Hall “for playing att cross bones upon the Saboath day in tyme of divine service.”
1637. Against [Geo. Whitmore?] farmer of the rectory:—  
 “The chancell wanteth beautifying on the north side with lyme and sand.” Against Guy Hawkins for “fowling with his nets upon the Sunday in time of divine service; for abusing the churchwarden with raling words in the execucion of his office; and for keeping company drinking in his house in service tyme upon Sundayes.” Against Wm. Shawe and Anthony Avison, churchwardens:—“Their church-yearde fence lyeth downe ever since Lammas last undecentlie.” William Hawkesworth, clerk, vicar there “non exhibit ordines.”
1674. Against Humphry Simpson, clerk, curate (*dead*)  
 “in non exhibendo.”

I have found nothing of interest to record in the history of the parish during the eighteenth century until 1760, when its external appearance was much changed by the enclosure of the Common lands. During the latter part of this century no less than 1,600 private Acts of Parliament were passed, enclosing 3,000,000 acres in England. In

(1) This same boy had been fined in vain for the same offence by the Manor Court a year before.

Bishopthorpe, as elsewhere, nearly all the land had previously been open, only marked out by boundary stones (such as we still see in the Fulford Ings) or balks of turf. This was now staked out for enclosure, 400 acres on the Moor or Common, 50 acres in the Ings, and 200 acres in four large Common fields. The "Near West Field" stretched north of the Back Lane from the Palace kitchen-gardens across Sim Balk Lane, almost up to Middlethorpe Grange; the "Far West Field" contained the rest of the land north of the Copmanthorpe Lane up to "Providence Green." The other two, called the "Near South Field" and the "Far South Field," extended on both sides of Acaster Lane, being bounded by the present cricket field and village on the north, by the field lane to Acaster on the west, by Acaster parish on the south, including the portion now on the other side of the railway, and by the Ings on the east. The cricket field was an old enclosure belonging to the Mitford family. The Award<sup>1</sup> was made by three Commissioners, who fixed the boundaries and laid down rules for the fencing and draining, which are still observed.

How Archbishop Drummond pulled down the old Church in 1763, I have recorded elsewhere. In the same year a School House was built by John Crosby<sup>2</sup> on the Lord's Waste. Where the children were educated before this time, or whether they were educated at all, I cannot say, though there still remains a small endowment of £2 per annum, given in 1693 by Thomas Earby, towards a

(1) A copy of the Award is in the Office of the Archbishop's Secretary in York. The original is, I fear, lost.

(2) *v.* Board in the Vestry.



Bishopthorpe Village from the School-House.





schoolmaster's salary. The present School was built close to the old one by Archbishop Harcourt, in 1846, on manorial land. He also rebuilt the old house, which he fitted up as a Girls' School, and residence for the master. It became dilapidated and unfit for use, and in 1893 it was sold, the proceeds going towards a new class-room which was built in that year. The School still goes by the name of "the Archbishop of York's School," and the Archbishop for the time being is the sole trustee and largest subscriber to its funds, though other residents in the parish contribute to the expenses.

The main village drain was made in 1828, under the direction of Mr. Raisin, Archbishop Harcourt bearing the larger share of the cost. It is unfortunate that it should have been taken through the churchyard, as it prevented a large part of it from being used.

A row of poplars on the south side of the village was planted in 1829, and became a well-known landmark. More than thirty of them were taken down in 1881, as they had become unsafe; and it was only just in time, for the great October gale of that year came a few weeks after.

Before the time of railways there was a regular service of steam packets, which passed daily backwards and forwards between York and Hull. They used to pick up passengers at the Bishopthorpe Ferry between 7 and 8 o'clock in the morning; and this was the quickest and cheapest route to London, for the coach took from four days to a week over the journey. The main line of the North Eastern Railway with its swing bridge over the river to Naburn, which cuts the parish, was opened on January 2nd, 1871.

In 1866<sup>1</sup> the Ecclesiastical Parish was enlarged by the addition of part<sup>2</sup> of the adjoining township of Middlethorpe. The new boundary runs from the river a little to the north-east of the Manor Farm, along Middlethorpe Common, to just beyond the Grange Farm in Sim Balk Lane. Gas was brought from York to the village in 1867, and it is now used in almost every cottage. The lamps in the street were erected in the Diamond Jubilee year, 1897. We owe them to the energy of our Parish Council, which has also provided a cricket field and additional allotments, both of which were much needed. The York Water Supply was brought into use by order of the District Council in 1898, most of the village wells having been condemned as unsafe. Since that time the Palace Water Tower, built by Archbishop Thomson in 1863, has not been used.

(1) By an Order in Council dated February 3rd, 1866.

(2) Taken from the old Ecclesiastical Parish of S. Mary, Bishophill Senior, in York.





## CHAPTER II.

### THE FIRST CHURCH.

**W**E know very little about the old Church. It was probably built by the Prior and Monks of S. Andrew's at the beginning of the thirteenth century. If so, the Architecture was Early English, and the Piscina previously mentioned tends to confirm this. If, as is likely, the second Church of 1768 was built on the old foundations, its predecessor was cruciform in plan, but unfortunately no description or picture of it is to be found.

Among the manuscripts' in Lambeth Palace Library there is a Bishopthorpe Inventory of Church goods, together with those of Healaugh, Rufforth and Acomb, made in March, 1549. We give it here; and it is interesting as showing what ornaments were in common use at the beginning of the third year of Edward VI, just before the publication of the first Prayer Book. If they were "in use" then, they were so in "the second year."

(1) "MSS.," No. 696. Printed in Peacock's "Church Furniture," p. 246.

## BYSSOPHTHORPE.

The inventorie of all the goods and ornaments belonging unto the Church of Byssopthorpe, made by us William Preston, vicar, Thomas Leeds, Thomas Vigars, churchwardens, Master Gye' Jacson, Richard Elwood, the ij day of March in the iij yer of the raigne of Edward the Sexte, by the grace of God, of England, France and Ireland, King, &c.

Item: on chalis of sylver not gylt.

Item: on pyxe of latton.

Item: a payre of . . . ? lattñ.

Item: ij bells hanging in the steple.

Item: one lyttell sacring bell.

Item: one holly waterfatt of tynne.

Item: one cruett of pewter.

Item: one Chrismatory of pewter.

Item: one vellry cope.

Item: one whyt fustyn vestment<sup>3</sup> with a redd Cross, to the Albe belonging.

Item: an old vestment without Albe.

Item: iiij old Alter Clothes.

Item: ij old towells.

Item: on Corporas cloth and ij tasslys.

Item: one lyttell frontlett of ffustian.

Item: on greyne vestment with Albe.

One of the saddest scandals of Edward's short reign was the attempt in 1552 to enrich the impoverished Treasury by the confiscation of Church goods. For this purpose

(1) George or Geoffrey.

(2) ? Candlesticks.

(3) *i.e.* Chasuble.

Commissioners were appointed all over England, "who," says Canon Dixon,<sup>1</sup> "carried out their instructions with lamentable exactitude . . . an incalculable mass of rare and precious furniture was carried to destruction. Chalices, crosses and candlesticks, &c., &c., all rolled together to the Mint, to the King's Jeweller in the Tower, to the King's Wardrobe. These Commissioners were allowed at discretion to leave one or two chalices, and a cloth or two, and a surplice or two, behind them; and, with astonishing hypocrisy, such miserable sundries were spoken of as if they had been gifts bestowed."

The Commissioners appointed for the City and Ainsty of York were the Earl of Shrewsbury, Lord Wharton, the Mayor, Sir Leonard Beckwith, and Sir William Fairfax. They visited Bishopthorpe on the 9th of June, 1553, and the result was a sad illustration of the truth of the above description, for of the goods mentioned in the former inventory, all that they left was "one chalice of silver, poudring iiij unces, and towe bells, poudring by estimacion one hundred and half."<sup>2</sup>

We pass on to the times of the Great Rebellion. Whether the vicar, William Hawkesworth, lived to be ejected from his living, I do not know. He was here in 1637, and must have been then already an elderly man, for he was instituted in 1609. Most of the Church clergy were dispossessed in 1643 or 1645 for refusing to sign the Covenant or to give up the use of the Prayer-Book, and Mr. Ellwood, a Presbyterian, became the minister in Bishopthorpe. He, in his turn, was ejected on S. Bartholomew's

(1) "History of the Church of England," vol. iii., pp. 449-450.

(2) Cf. "Inventories of Church Goods" (Surtees Society), vol. xcvi., p. 95.

Day, 1662. There is no record of the institution of a vicar until 1675, and the parish for those twenty-three years may have been in charge of the curate, Humphrey Simpson, who is mentioned in the Archdeacon's Visitation of 1674.

Drake, who published his great work "Eboracum," a history of the City of York and the neighbourhood, in 1736, mentions our old Church, but unfortunately gives no description of it. He records,<sup>1</sup> however, two of the monumental inscriptions, destroyed in 1768, which were as follows:—

Here lyeth he whose flower of youth in sin was spent,  
But, through grace of the Deity,  
In age earnestly he did repent,  
And trusted in Christe from God being sent.  
Expecting now with Saints alone  
The longed for comynge of Jesus to dome.  
Robertus Brighous qui . . .  
. . . vita mutata . . . ob. xxx die Aug.

A.D. 1579.

And Depositum Richardi Bratewayt filii  
Edwardi Brathwayt et Annæ uxoris ejus,  
qui obiit 22 die Sept. 1673.

There appear to have been aisles or transepts, for a certain Grace Brown was buried in "the south alley" in 1703. The Registers record that a gallery was erected<sup>2</sup> in 1700, and that the choir was beautified and repaired in 1707, the lay rectors sharing in the cost.

The old Church, which had stood here for more than five hundred years, and in which through all the changes of Church and State so many generations of parish-

(1) pp. 383-384.

(2) By an Assessment laid on the Parishioners. £2 from Archbishop Sharpe.

ioners had worshipped, was entirely pulled down in 1768. Not a trace of it was left, unless it be a few fragments of columns and arches which are to be found in the neighbouring gardens. Even the very monuments seem to have been destroyed; we should like to know what became of them and of the bells. The old font, if local tradition be correct, is now in Askham Bryan Church, four miles away. It was an act of vandalism that we may well deplore, but it was unfortunately a period which had little architectural taste or respect for the sacred traditions of the past. It is very likely that the building was in sad need of repair, but it is difficult to believe that it might not have been preserved and still standing, had it only met with kinder treatment.

But this was not so, and this brings us to the history of

### THE SECOND CHURCH

which was built on the same site in 1768, as soon as its predecessor was pulled down. Archbishop Drummond bore most of the cost, giving the timber and £660. The Feoff Charity was leased for forty years, which produced £110 for the purpose, and a few of the parishioners subscribed, as is recorded on a tablet in the vestry. The building was entirely of brick, the walls being only fourteen inches thick, with ordinary sash windows. The east window was an exception, for its stonework was brought from the ruined Chapel of Cawood Castle. The vicar at the time was the Rev. John Dealtary, whose monument is to be seen on the north wall<sup>1</sup> of the choir. It has the following inscription:—

(1) Now at the west end of the New Church.



To the Memory of  
 John Dealtary, M.A.  
 Rector of Barnborough in the County of York  
 Prebendary of Stillington in the Cathedral of York  
 and during the time of nearly forty years  
 Vicar of this Parish.

He died on the 30th of April 1797 in the 89th year of his age;  
 and of Ann Dealtary his widow  
 who died on the 16th of Sept 1815 in the 97th year of her age,  
 also of John Dealtary their son  
 who died on the 5th of March 1767  
 in the 21st year of his age.

Archbishop Drummond died in 1776, and was buried  
 beneath the altar of his Church, as is recorded in the  
 Latin inscription to his two infant grand-daughters on the  
 south chancel wall,<sup>1</sup> of which the following is a translation:

Beside the remains of their Grandfather  
 Robert Archbishop of York  
 beneath the Table of the Lord  
 rest Elizabeth and Mary  
 Daughters of Edward Auriol Drummond  
 Prebendary of York and of Elizabeth his wife  
 aged five months and three years  
 Elizabeth died on the 14th of December  
 Mary on the 28h of November  
 In the year of Our Lord 1786.

In the first volume of the Parish Registers there is a  
 ground plan of the Church, in Mr. Dealtary's handwriting,  
 showing the arrangement of the seats about this time  
 (1768). The "singers" sat on either side of the altar,  
 and there were four large pews in the chancel. The  
 Archbishop with his family and servants occupied the  
 whole of the north transept, and opposite them were the

(1) Now in the New Church.

reading desk, pulpit and clerk's seat, with places for "young men and strangers" behind them. The rest of the parishioners occupied the west end of the nave—the font standing in the centre of the Church.

The first Church had stood for more than five hundred years; its successor "had become ruinous," says Canon Dixon, "in little more than seventy years;" and in 1842 Archbishop Harcourt spent £2,000 in restoration, putting in a new roof, floor and seats, and adding the south vestry (afterwards the organ chamber), and the porches to the transepts, outside which his arms are carved. Stone mullions took the place of wooden sashes in the windows, and the stone west front with the bell-turret above, was built in the quasi-gothic style of the period. At the same time the river wall was rebuilt and strengthened. The windows were filled with stained glass by Wailes of Newcastle, who was considered the best artist for such work in his day, though it is now easy to criticize their poor drawing and crude colouring. In the east window were represented the four Evangelists, and in the small upper lights S. Paul, S. John Baptist, with two other Saints and two Angels. The south transept window had Our Lord, with S. Peter on His right and S. Andrew on His left, and above them the Baptism and the Ascension. The north transept window was in memory of Archbishop Harcourt, and contained his arms and initials; the smaller windows of the nave and west end were filled with patterned glass.

There were mural monuments<sup>1</sup> in the body of the Church to members of the Steward family, and to Colonel

(1) Now in the New Church.

Towers, who lived and died at Middlethorpe Manor.

The Archbishop used to occupy a large pew which filled the greater part of the north side of the Church, surrounded by his family and household. Archbishop Harcourt was wont to enter the Church in great state, preceded by four liveried footmen. He refused to allow an organ to be erected, saying that "people should use their own organs." His chair, made from the oak of the Minster roof after the great fire of 1829, stands now in the sanctuary of the new Church. The present throne was given by Archbishop Musgrave, and his arms are carved upon it. The Church was lighted with gas in 1868, and in 1872 the old oak pews were taken away, and were replaced by open pitchpine seats. Several other alterations were made at the same time, and there was a great re-opening by Archbishop Thomson on August 27th in that year, when the sermon was preached by Dr. Alfred Barry, then Canon of Worcester.

A small organ, costing £53, was placed in the gallery in 1857; this was sold and replaced by another in 1860. A third took its place when Archdeacon Basil Jones was vicar, and was built in the chancel aisle, which had been the vestry. The present organ was bought when the Rev. R. Blakeney was vicar, and in this year the new vestry on the north side was built.

The Parish Magazine tells us that the Sunday Evening Service was begun in February, 1866, the change from the afternoon being made by the Vicar "in accordance with the known wishes of the great majority of the parishioners." I do not know how ancient the early service is which is held at the commencement of the harvest. The first

mention that I can find is in the summer number of the Parish Magazine for 1863, when notice of it is given as if it were an old-established custom. It was given up after Archdeacon Jones's time, but was revived in 1892, with very satisfactory results. It is held at 5-15 a.m.





### CHAPTER III.

#### THE VICARAGE HOUSE AND VICARS.

**T**HE Vicarage was established by Archbishop Giffard in 1269, when he gave the Rectory to the Priory of S. Clement. So far as we can tell the house has always stood on the present site. Drake,<sup>1</sup> following Torre, says the vicar "was to have for the portion of his vicarage that whole mansion, with its gardens and virgult, which lies between the house of Ralph Haliday's, &c.; together with the two sections of land on the outside of the said garden southward, and abutting the said virgult. He shall also receive the whole profits of the alterage of the Church, and two marks per annum out of the chamber of the Priory quarterly; and on every Lord's Day have one refectory in their house. The said Prioress and Nuns shall pay all archiepiscopal and archidiaconal dues; find books and ornaments of the Church; and bear all other burthens thereof at their own cost. Only the vicar shall repair the chancel when need requires; but at the new building thereof shall bear only his own proportion."

(1) "Eboracum," p. 383. Cf. Torre's "MSS.," f. 325.

The old house was pulled down by the Rev. W. Berdmore,<sup>1</sup> vicar 1736-58, and a new<sup>2</sup> one erected in its place, part of which remains, viz. the dining-room, study and bedrooms above, all facing north. The front was towards the Church lane, the main door and entrance passing through the present dining-room. The garden was a narrow strip of land, very little wider than the house, extending from the Church lane to the fields at the back. Between the house and the Church was a small cottage and croft, belonging in 1768 to a Mr. Pawson. This was bought by Archbishop Markham and given to the vicarage to enlarge the garden, the cottage being pulled down. All the lower part of the present garden belonged to the Chantry House, which has already been mentioned as standing close to the south side of the Church. This property belonged in 1760 to a certain Daniel Mitford, who acquired it through his marriage with Miss Breary, of Middlethorpe Manor. They had one daughter, who became the wife of the Rev. W. Peacock, who later took his mother's<sup>3</sup> name of Cust. The Chantry House was pulled down in 1822 by Mr. Vernon, who was then vicar. At the same time the garden was thrown into the vicarage grounds, although it was still rented from the Custs, and did not become really part of the glebe until 1857, when it was bought by the Rev. C. F. Smith. Some old

(1) Prebendary of Bugthorpe, 1743; Canon Residentiary of York, 1749; collated to Rectory of Rothbury, in Northumberland, 1758.

(2) A careful description of the eighteenth century Vicarage is given in the "Terrier" for 1757.

(3) Elizabeth Cust, sister of Thomas Cust, of Danby Hill, Northallerton, married Samuel Peacock, his father.

boundary stones are still in the vicarage garden, marked W.V. (=William Vernon), W.C. (=William Cust) and (R.), which I suppose stands for Raisin, the name of an eccentric old gentleman, who built the house next door to the west.

The old towing-path passed between Chantry House and the Church out into the lane, and when the Chantry House was pulled down it was closed and became part of the churchyard. The present lane to the ferry was then made through the fields at the back of the vicarage. The ferry<sup>1</sup> was opened at the end of the eighteenth century by the tenant of the Chantry, who obtained leave from the then Mr. Key, of Water Fulford, to land passengers on the other side of the river; thus the right of way across the Ings came to be established. The man had bought his boat in the first instance for eel-fishing, and "in 1798, when corn was worth a guinea per bushel, he sold £10 worth of eels in York."<sup>2</sup>

The Rev. W. Vernon (afterwards Vernon-Harcourt), son of the Archbishop, was twice Vicar of Bishopthorpe, exchanging each time with Canon Dixon. He was a man of considerable mark in his day, especially in the scientific world, and a great friend of the more famous Sydney Smith, himself for some years a Yorkshire vicar. The latter wrote the following amusing lines on his friend's honeymoon, which was spent in the Lakes, making fun of his geological tastes.

(1) Cf. Dixon "MSS." p. 28.

(2) Dixon "MSS."

"Midst rocks and ringlets, specimens and sighs,  
 On wings of rapture every moment flies,  
 He views Matilda, lovely in her prime,  
 Then finds sulphuric acid mixed with lime!  
 Guards from her lovely face the solar ray,  
 And fills his pockets with alluvial clay.  
 Science and love distract his tortured heart,  
 Now flints, now fondness, take the larger part;  
 And now he breaks a stone, now feels a dart."<sup>1</sup>

Mr. Harcourt was a notable Whig, and one of the two clergy who alone ventured to sign Sydney Smith's petition to Parliament in 1825, in favour of Roman Catholic Emancipation. He was also the father of Sir William Harcourt, who was baptized in our Church on November 12th, 1827.

Canon Dixon, who was Vicar of Bishopthorpe from 1824 to 1834, and again from 1837 to 1854, was born in 1783, his mother being half-sister to the poet Mason, whose estates he inherited. He was an antiquary of some repute, and compiled materials for a "History of the Archbishops of York," which are incorporated by Canon Raine in his well-known "Fasti Eboracenses," the preface to which contains a graceful tribute to his memory.<sup>2</sup> He was chaplain successively to Archbishops Harcourt and Musgrave, and the following list of the preferments which they showered on him, shows to what lengths pluralism could go in the early part of this century.

1815-36    Prebendary of the fifth stall at Ripon.

1818-21    Incumbent of Mapleton.

1821-24    Vicar of Wistow.

(1) There is also a sketch of his life in the Surtees Society "Memorials of Ripon," vol. ii., pp. 340-2.

(2) Reed's "Life of Sydney Smith," p. 229 (Fourth Edition).



- 1821-29 Perpetual Curate of Cawood.
- 1824-34 Vicar of Bishopthorpe.
- 1825-29 Vicar of Wistow.
- 1825-54 Prebendary of Weighton.
- 1829-37 Vicar of Topcliffe.
- 1831-54 Canon Residentiary of York.
- 1834-37 Vicar of Sutton-on-the-Forest.
- 1836-52 Canon Residentiary of Ripon.
- 1837-54 Vicar of Bishopthorpe.
- 1837-54 Rector of Eton.

He died in 1854, and was buried in the York Cemetery. There are monuments to his memory in the chancel at Bishopthorpe, and north choir aisle of York Minster.

He is still remembered here, and an old parishioner used to relate that at the time of the first Reform Bill in 1831 or 1832, when the Bishops were very unpopular for voting against it, a mob came out from York to attack Archbishop Harcourt. Canon Dixon harangued them from the Palace steps, and told them that they would have to pass over him before they entered the house. As he was speaking, a bugle was heard to sound from the barracks across the river; the mob imagined that it was a signal for the approach of the soldiers, and beat a hasty retreat.

Canon Dixon had the rare merit of writing down all that he heard or read concerning the history of the Church and parish, partly in a note book devoted to the purpose (now in my possession), partly in the parish registers;

(1) Now at the West End of the New Church.

and it is to his thoughtful care that I owe much of the information contained in this book.

In 1825-6<sup>1</sup> he pulled down the back part of the old vicarage and built the present drawing-room, hall, kitchen, &c., with the rooms over them, as well as new stables and outbuildings, at a cost of £2,500. He also laid out the front garden, taking especial pains to arrange the beautiful glimpse of the river from the drawing-room windows. It is strange that only one window in the house faces south, and that is upstairs with a view into the kitchen yard. The bedrooms over the back kitchen were added by Mr. Harcourt on his re-institution in 1834.

The vicarage was originally endowed with a small portion of tithes and lands, and then with the pittance of two marks paid by the Priory, increased somewhat by fees and offerings, formed the only income in early days. It was valued at £4 per annum in Henry VIII's time, and at £20 in the Parliamentary survey in the seventeenth century. In 1707 it had risen to £24 15s., of which £11 was tithe. Archbishop Blackburn was a great benefactor to us, for having recovered the patronage, he gave £400 to increase the endowment in 1731. This was met by a similar sum from Queen Anne's Bounty, and with the £800 a farm was bought at Ryther, which proved a very good investment. It was let at the time for £30, but by the end of the century the rent had risen to £100. This farm was sold in 1857 by the vicar, Rev. C. F. Smith, for £4,650, who bought with this sum the lower part of the vicarage garden, which

(1) "These being the dearest years both for labour and material since the Peace." Dixon "MSS.," p. 54.

I have mentioned, with the ferry cottage and field adjoining, from the Cust family, the farm on the Moor, then called Longwood farm (or Barleythorpe), from Mr. Martin Burnell, and other pieces of land in the parish. It was not much of a bargain, for the Ryther property was resold for an additional £1,000 in the auction room. We gather from this that land worth £800 in 1731 was worth £5,650 in 1857, which was a good time for landowners. Most of the rest of the glebe was allotted to the vicar at the time of the Commons enclosure in 1760. The North Eastern Railway runs through a field belonging to the farm just beyond the bridge on the Appleton lane; for this they had to pay £453, which brings in £12 3s. per annum. The income was further increased in 1866 by an annual grant of £81 from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, thus raising the gross income to the total of £247 per annum.





## CHAPTER IV.

### THE CHURCHYARD.

**T**HE little Churchyard is less than half an acre in extent, and was formerly much smaller. How it served even for this small parish<sup>1</sup> for so many hundreds of years it is difficult to say. The same ground must have been used over and over again, at not very long intervals. It contains no old tombs or crosses, or if there are any they have long ago sunk into the moist earth. About half a rood was added to the west in 1768, when the second Church was built, and a small additional portion in the same direction in 1842. The row of Irish and golden yews was planted in the early summer of 1871, under the care of the churchwardens, Mr. T. Dixon and Mr. Langdale. The north-east corner was added in 1883, the new portion (198 square yards) being given by Archbishop Thomson, who reserved a part of it for himself and his family, and it was here that his body was laid to rest on December 30th, 1890. The fine granite cross, that is so marked a feature from the river, marks the spot, bearing the following inscription:—

(1) There were thirty-eight families, *i.e.* about two hundred inhabitants in 1743. Cf. Archbishop Herring's "Visitation Enquiries." Acaster Malbis was then a much larger parish.

To the Beloved Memory of  
WILLIAM THOMSON, D.D.,  
Archbishop of York,

Born 11th February, 1819.

Consecrated Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, 1861.

Translated to York, January, 1861.

He entered into rest on Christmas Day, 1890, at Bishopthorpe.

The ground is bounded on the east by the Ouse, which has always been its enemy. Large sums of money have been spent upon the wall, which has been built to save the bank from being washed away, and continual repairs are needed owing to the wash of the steam packets. As long ago as 1619 the churchwardens were presented at the Archdeacon's Visitation for neglecting their duties in this respect, and a curious fine<sup>1</sup> imposed on certain persons in 1623 was devoted to the same object.

In 1892, during the great flood, the churchyard was almost entirely under water, and on Sunday, October 16th, the congregation had to go to the Church through the vicarage garden. At the same time the Palace basement was flooded, and a boat was rowed up and down the village street. Owing to the river, and the difficulty of getting anything like a good foundation, it was regretfully decided to give up the old site for the new Church, and to build it in the new churchyard on the York road. This contains three roods, and was given by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners in 1892,<sup>2</sup> the old ground being full.

(1) In 1623, Richard Sherburn, Esq., of Mitton-in-Craven, and Ellen Gregson were presented "for suspicion of adultery or fornication together." They were found guilty and penance imposed, afterwards commuted into a fine of £150, to be devoted to pious uses. £20 of this sum was expended "in making a Cawsey in the lane at Bishopthorpe, and for defence of the churchyard there from the River of Owze." Cf. "Yorkshire Archæological Journal," vol. lviii, p. 229.

(2) It was consecrated by Archbishop Maclagan on July 29th, 1892.



S. Andrew's Church, Bishopthorpe. consecrated 1899.      Tower dedicated 1903.





## CHAPTER V.

### THE TITHES.

**T**HE Rectorial or Great Tithes, which before the Reformation belonged to the Clementhorpe Priory, passed to the Crown at the Dissolution of the Monasteries. They were sold<sup>1</sup> by James I in 1625 to two impropiators, John Hewett and Francis Rayner, and have remained divided ever since. In 1706 they belonged to the Fairfax family of Gilling and to that of Whitmore, who are recorded as taking their share in some Church repairs executed at that date. The rule, recorded in the old Register Book, is as follows:—"When the Church and Chancel was repaired jointly, the parish should pay three-fourths, the rectors one-fourth of the bill." The Fairfax share was sold with their property in Bishopthorpe and Acaster Malbis to Lady Dawes in 1741, and has passed to her descendant, the present Lord Wenlock.<sup>2</sup> The Whitmore share was purchased in 1717 by Francis Barlow of Middlethorpe Hall, and now belongs to Colonel G. Eason Wilkinson, J.P., of Dringhouses Manor, who has inherited the Barlow property.

(1) A Copy of the Deed is in the Parish Chest.

(2) Lord Wenlock has not collected his tithe for many years, though he is still rated for it.





## CHAPTER VI.

### THE REGISTERS.

**T**HE Parish Registers do not begin until 1692, which proves that unfortunately at least one volume has been lost. This is not surprising when we can find no trace of the Parish Chest mentioned in the Terriers of the last century. The Registers are kept in an iron safe at the vicarage, together with the other parish documents, some of which are very valuable.

There is little in the Registers worthy of record here. The earliest volume consists of Burials 1692-1794, Baptisms 1692-1795, Marriages 1696-1758, bound up together. It contains also a curious ground plan of the arrangement of the Church and seats after the rebuilding in 1768, and the Terriers of 1764 and 1770.

There are several entries of Burials within the Church, and of Marriages in the Chapel of the Palace, which is always described as the Manor House. A new Tithe Barn was built in 1721 for £22 13s. 10d., and a new Threshing Floor in 1731 for £2 6s. 2d. A new study was added to

the vicarage in 1722, chiefly "at the expense of Dr. Blake, Archdeacon of York." Mr. Addison enclosed the vicarage croft with "quicksett fences" in 1710. His wife, Anne Addison, 'was buried in the south-west end of the Church, behind the door, the 17th of October, 1734.'

From 1777 to 1794 the Register of Burials records the "Distemper," which proved fatal in each case. There were several deaths from small-pox in 1778 and again in 1785. In 1779, Sarah Brooke, of Foulford, died of "sorrow for Mr. Key."

The old altar plate consisted of: a paten, inscribed:—

"Ex don: Johañ Dolben Archicp̃ Ebor: 1683."

a chalice,

"Ex dono Johan Dolben, Archicp: Thomos Pinder,  
Christopher Kirby, churchwardens, An° Do:  
1683."

and a flagon,

"Mr. John Taylor gave this cup for the Communion, Bishopthorpe, June 22nd, 1782."

All this disappeared in 1839 when Archbishop Harcourt gave a new set, consisting of a silver paten, chalice, flagon and two alms-dishes, on all of which his arms are engraved, with the date.

# LIST OF THE VICARS AND PATRONS OF BISHOPTHORPE.

<i>Patron.</i>		<i>Vicar.</i>	
Priory of S. Andrew's, } York - - - - -	1231	Arnold de Berkeley -	Rector
Archbishop of York -	1241	. . . . .	Advowson bought by Abp. Walter Gray
Priory of S. Clement's -	1269	. . . . .	Advowson given by Abp. Giffard to S. Clement's Priory, York
"	1281	William de Cayingham -	
"	1304	Nicolas de Acaster	
"	1316	John de Swyne	
"	1321	Radulphus de Sowerby	
"	1332	Walter de Stutton	
"	1335	Robert Almot	
"	1401	John de Briggs -	Master of the Hospital of S. John Baptist at Ripon, 1370. Cf. "Mem- orials of Ripon" (Surtees Society), vol. ii., pp. 129-132
"	1408	John de Nafferton	
"	1409	Thomas Gaynesburgh	
"	1415	John Darell	
"	1417	Thomas Dighton	
"	1427	William Richman	
"	1459	John Penreth	
"	—	John Fletcher	
"	1482	Robert Lille	
"	1495	William Softly	
"	1519	Henry Gurwall	
"	1521	Radulphus Palester	
The Crown - - -	1539	William Preston	
"	1572	Paul Mayson -	Cf. Torres' "MSS.," f.
"	1605	Thomas Lougher	
"	1609	William Hawkesworth	
"	1643	[Mr. Ellwood] -	Presbyterian; ejected in 1662
"	—	Humphrey Simpson -	Curate
"	1675	George Loupell	
"	1681	Samuel Daniel	
"	1693	Thomas Adams	
"	1701	James Addison	
Archbishop of York -	1736	William Berdmore	
"	1758	John Dealtary	
"	1797	Robert Markham	
"	1814	William Vernon -	Took the name of Harcourt
"	1824	William Henry Dixon	
"	1834	William Vernon Harcourt	re-instituted
"	1837	William Henry Dixon -	"
"	1854	Charles Frederick Smith-	Rector of Beeford
"	1865	William Basil Jones -	Bishop of S. David's, 1874-1897
"	1875	Walter Hudson -	Rector of Carlton-in-Lindrick
"	1884	Richard Blakeney -	Vicar of Melton Mowbray, 1891
"	1891	John Robert Keble	
"	1902	Wm. Geoffrey Pennyman	



## CHAPTER VII.

### CHURCH AND PARISH CHARITIES.

**T**HE following account of the various small Charities in the parish may be found useful for reference. There have been two enquiries by the Charity Commissioners: the first was held in 1824,<sup>1</sup> the second in 1895.<sup>2</sup>

The Charities are as follows:—

#### ANNOTSON'S CHARITY.

Thomas Annotson by his Will in 1659 gave to the use and benefit of the poor of the parish, in lieu of the former, a field of 2 acres 1 rood 2 perches was allotted in the Ings in 1760, now let to Mr. Walter Johnson for £5 per annum. The latter has unfortunately been lost, and is in the possession of the owner of West End Terrace, where it forms the gardens to the cottages on the right hand side of the lane.

(1) 1824 Report, vol. ii., p. 714.

(2) Report published in 1895, among "endowed Charities for West Riding of York."

## MAURICE'S CHARITY.

Richard Maurice in 1719 gave £20 for the benefit of the poor in the parish, with which a field called Eller Close was bought in the Lordship of Cawood and Parish of Wistow, now let to Mr. E. Howden, of Wistow, for £3 per annum.

## CROSBY'S CHARITY.

Chas. Crosby by his Will dated 17th March, 1770, left to the poor of the parish a charge of 26s. on three fields, now belonging to Mr. R. Cundall, of Appleton Roebuck; also a charge of £1 on the cottage and garth, belonging to Mrs. Simpson, daughter of Jos. Wade, now occupied by Mrs. Gowthorpe.

## EASBY'S CHARITY.

Thos. Easby by his Will in 1693 gave £2, to be paid yearly out of his estate at Bishopthorpe to a schoolmaster. £1 of this is now paid by Lewis Kirk, and £1 by the Vicar on the garden<sup>1</sup> let to William Johnson. This £2 is paid every year to the School account.

## HARCOURT'S CHARITY.

Archbishop Harcourt, by his Will dated 1847, left £500 to the poor of Bishopthorpe. This amounted in 1883 to £589 2s. 3d., which was transferred to the Official Trustees of Charitable Funds. It is invested in Consols, the dividends being paid to Beckett's Bank, York.

(1) Called "Nanny Croft."

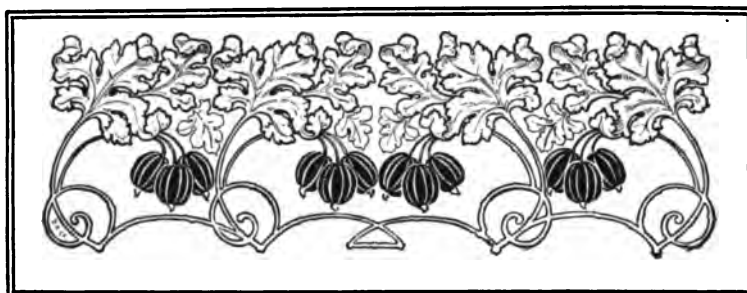
## HODGSON'S CHARITY.

John Hodgson, in 1891, left £5,000, invested in North Eastern Railway 4 per cent. Preference Stock, for the benefit of persons living on small incomes and in distress, to certain parishes, of which Bishopthorpe is one.

With the exception of Easby's Charity, and 26s. of Crosby's Charity, which provides bread for certain widows, the rest of the income is all expended, at the discretion of the vicar and trustees, in coal and flour given to poor persons shortly before Christmas. In 1895, under the Parish Councils Act, the churchwardens ceased to act as trustees of the above charities, and in their place two trustees are appointed by the Parish Council to act with the vicar, each trustee holding office for four years. The following have been appointed by the Parish Council:—

Joseph Bulmer	-	-	1895-1896.
John Archer	-	-	1895-1898.
Tom Horner	-	-	1897-1900.
John Archer	-	-	1899-1902.





## CHAPTER VIII.

### THE CHURCH ESTATE.

**N**O information as to the origin of this Charity can be found. The property forming the endowment is copyhold of the Manor of Bishopthorpe, and we only know that it is older than 1623, for that is the date of the earliest admission recorded in the Court Rolls. It consists of a house and garden on the south side of the village, now let to Mr. F. Taylor for £15 per annum; of one field in the Ings, and another in Acaster lane, both let to Mr. George Scholey for £6 11s. per annum; and six acres on the Moor, let to Mr. Walter Johnson for 12 guineas per annum. According to the old Manor Roll, the income was "to and for the use, benefitt and repaire of the Church of Bishopthorpe."

In the year 1861 the question was raised by the Feoffs whether they were justified in making payments for ordinary purposes connected with the maintenance of public worship in Church. The Charity Commissioners advised and directed that one-half of the net income of

the charity might be appropriated towards ordinary Church expenses, such as had been borne by Church rates. The fencing and keeping up of the churchyard is also a recognized part of the expenditure.

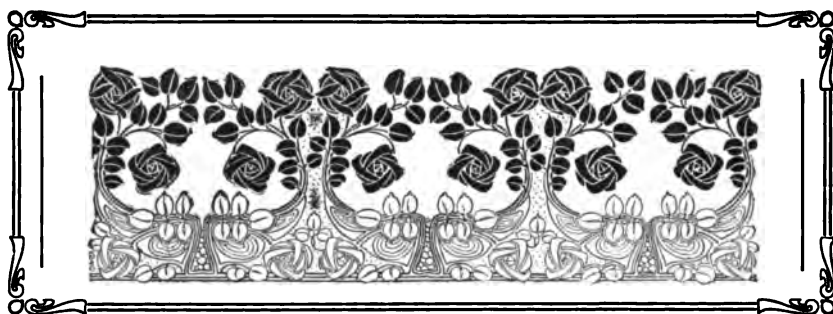
New Feoffs are elected by co-option, except in the case of the vicar, who acts as ex-officio chairman; from time to time they are admitted<sup>1</sup> at the Manor Court. The following are the first and last admissions recorded in the Court Rolls:—

In 1623	James Godson	Richard Myers
	Francis Barton	George Easby
	John Annotson	George Bullock
	John Gardner	Peter Leeds
In 1895	Rev. J. R. Keble	Walter Lofthouse
	William Burnell	Henry George Smallwood
	Thomas Dixon	Capt. M. Dunnington-Jefferson

(1) The Manor Rolls contain admissions in 1623, 1723, 1765, 1805, 1829, 1854, 1881, 1895.







## CHAPTER IX.

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### THE MANOR HOUSE OF BISHOPTHORPE.

**T**HE old Manor House is the only survivor of the many residences owned and occupied by the Archbishops of York before the Reformation. It has a special interest of its own, for it bears the marks of the different periods of history through which it has passed, and of the hands of many of the great men who have occupied it. The story of the purchase of the property by Walter Gray in 1226 has already been told. Copies of the charters of purchase still remain, and though it is difficult to be certain, it seems that the site of the house and garden with most of the manorial estate was bought from Kirkstall Abbey, and some small portions of the grounds from Robert Bustard. The house and Chapel were built by 1241, and were in that year handed over by Gray in trust to the Dean and Chapter of York. He thus describes them in the grant:—"Mansum nostrum in villa de Thorp Sancti Andreae, cum ædificiis, gardinis, vivario, quæ infra illud mansum fieri fecimus, et omnes

terras cum hominibus, redditibus, pratis et omnibus aliis ad dictas terras pertinentibus, videlicet quicquid habuimus in eadem Thorp Sancti Andreæ, de cujuscunque dono fuerit, sine aliquo retenemento, ex anstrali parte aquæductus quæ vocatur Caldecotesik, et descendit de bosco de Thorp per berchariam in vivarium, et de vivario usque fluvium Use; et ipsum vivarium cum molendino aquario supra illud sito.”<sup>1</sup>

A considerable part of Gray's house remains, and we can form a good guess as to the arrangement of the rest of the building. The south wing consisted of the existing Chapel, running east and west, a witness to the taste and skill of the great Archbishop, who built also the noble south transept of York Minster. The Chapel was more beautiful then than now: the roof was pitched and gabled, and the west end was not hidden by the business room, but fronted the court with a beautiful Early English west window. Below was a crypt, probably forming another Chapel, the old principle being that consecration extended from sky to earth, and the existence of bedrooms above or larder below would have been thought desecration. The doorway at the north-east end of the Chapel opened into the large hall, out of which another door close by led to a staircase descending to the terrace by the river, so that anyone arriving by water could, if he wished, go straight to the Hall or Chapel. Peeping through the lancet of the large buttress outside we can still see the newel of the old staircase, up which the chantry priests would go to say their masses for the founder and King John.

(1) Cf. Gray's "Register" (Surtees Society), p. 193.

The central part of the house, running north and south, consisted chiefly of the large dining hall, covering the same area as the present room, but much more lofty, with an open roof and no chambers above. The walls were of arcaded stone as in the Chapel, with a stone bench round, as can be seen by looking behind the wooden panelling at the south end, through the Chapel door. The width of the house was that of this hall and the passage outside, *i.e.* narrower than the present building by the width of the drawing-room. On entering by the west front the visitor would find himself in a small vestibule, with the old door into the Chapel (now walled up) on his right. To the left was the passage, as at present, west of the dining hall, but lighted with Early English windows looking out on the court-yard. To the north of the dining hall were two small rooms, which now form the boudoir. They were probably the Archbishop's private living rooms, and had chambers above them, reached as now by a staircase from the north corner of the basement. Below the present boudoir and dining hall were the kitchens and offices, and this seems to have been all. Standing on the river terrace we can see exactly where Walter Gray's work begins and ends. The east end of the Chapel to the south and the buttress outside the boudoir to the north show the extent. We can also see the ten Early English lancet windows of the crypt and basement, most of them cut out and spoilt. There was a large entrance door, the masonry of which can also be traced, just north of the crypt of the Chapel, by which the Archbishop would enter from his barge.



East Front of the Archbishop's House at Bishopthorpe.



So the house remained for two hundred and fifty years, and being one of the chief seats of the Northern Primates, it was only natural that it should become the scene of many interesting events in the history of England. A Council was held here in 1323 by Edward II, during his war with Scotland, at which Lord Henry Beaumont gave great offence to the King and was committed to prison. Archbishop William la Zouch, builder of the Chapel in the Minster, where Convocation now sits, held a Provincial Synod here in 1347, at which a series of constitutions were published. John de Thoresby, Zouch's successor, who built the beautiful Lady Chapel of the Minister, with its famous east window, signed his will here "in the bedroom where he was detained by bodily sickness."

In 1405, the old Manor House was the scene of a far more tragic and interesting event. Archbishop Scrope, brother of the Lord Scrope who had been Richard II's Chancellor, was induced to join the rising in the North against Henry IV, then absent on an expedition against Wales, the story of which is told in the first part of Shakespeare's "Henry IV." There was good reason why the North should have no love for the cruel King. He was regarded as a usurper, and was suspected of having procured the murder of Richard II<sup>1</sup> in Pontefract Castle. It was not forgotten how the head of the brave Hotspur, son of the Earl of Northumberland, had been fixed on one of the bars of York, after his death at the battle of Shrewsbury, while Sir William Scrope, Earl of Wiltshire, had also been executed by the King's orders.

(1) Cf. last Act of Shakespeare's "Richard II."

The insurrection had its centre in York, and the rebel forces marched out to Shipton Moor against Henry. Here the leaders were beguiled by the Earl of Westmoreland to meet in conference before fighting. As soon as they had agreed to this they were treacherously seized and were taken in haste to Pontefract Castle where the King was quartered. Henry, "full of vengeance," brought them here to Bishopthorpe. Some of the leaders were executed immediately, and the Archbishop was tried in the great dining hall. I give Drake's account of the tragedy that followed; he bases his record on a Latin document<sup>1</sup> called "the Martyrdom of Richard Scrope," written by a certain Clement Maidstone, who, if not an eye witness, was certainly a contemporary.

"Henry commanded William Gascoigne, at that time Chief Justice of England, to pronounce sentence against the Archbishop, as a traitor to his King and country. But that upright and memorable judge answered the King in this manner:—'Neither you my lord the King, nor any liegeman of yours in your name, can legally, according to the rights of the kingdom, adjudge any bishop to death.' For which reason he absolutely refused to try the Archbishop . . . Henry, greatly incensed at Gascoigne for this bold denial of his orders, commanded Sir William Fulthorpe, a lawyer but no judge, to pronounce sentence of death against our Prelate. This man servilely obeyed the orders, and being mounted on a high stage erected in the hall of the Palace, the Archbishop standing bareheaded before him, he did it in these words: 'We

(1) Printed in full in Raine's "Historians," &c., vol. ii., pp. 306-399.

adjudge thee, Richard, traytor to the King, to death, and by the King's command do order thee to be beheaded.' Upon hearing of this sentence, the Archbishop replied: 'The just and true God knows that I never designed any ill against the person of the King, now Henry the Fourth'; and turning to the bystanders he said several times: 'Pray that God may not avenge my death on the King or his' . . . As our Prelate's trial and sentence were brief, his execution immediately followed. He was set on a sorry horse of the value of 40*l.*, without a saddle, and with his face to the tail, and was led in this manner to the place of his execution, saying as he went along that he never rid upon a horse that he liked better than this in all his life. He was habited in a sky-coloured loose garment with the sleeves of the same, for it was not permitted him to wear his own, and a purple hood hanging on his shoulders. Being come to the place of execution, he said: 'Almighty God, I offer up myself and the cause for which I suffer, and beg pardon and forgiveness of Thee for all I have committed or omitted.' Then he laid his hood and tunic on the ground, and turning to the executioner, said: 'My son, God forgive thee my death; I forgive thee, but I beg this, that thou wilt with thy sword give me five wounds in my neck, which I desire to bear for the love of my Lord Jesus Christ, who, being for us obedient to his Father until death, bore five principal wounds in His body.' He then kissed the executioner three times, and kneeling down, prayed: 'Into Thy hands, most sweet Jesu, I commend my spirit,' with his hands

(1) The Archbishop's standard bore for device "the five wounds of our Saviour." Drake's "*Eboracum*," p. 107.



joined and his eyes lifted up to heaven. Then stretching out his hands and crossing his breast, the executioner at five strokes separated his head from his body."

Arundel, Archbishop of Canterbury, travelled by night and day from London to plead his cause, and all "travel-stained and besmattered" forced his way into the King's bedchamber early on the fatal Monday morning. Henry told him to lie down and rest, they would talk it over after breakfast, promising that nothing should be done meantime without a direct order from himself, but ere Arundel awoke all was over.

The tragedy took place on June 8th, 1405.<sup>1</sup> It is difficult to tell the exact spot, but an old record<sup>2</sup> names a barley field near Clementhorpe, probably one of the fields opposite S. Clement's modern rectory house. The body was carried to the Minster, and laid in the north-east corner of the choir.<sup>3</sup> "His tomb," says Canon Raine,

(1) A Memorial Service was held in the Chapel in commemoration of the 500th Anniversary of this event on 8th June, 1905.

(2) Cf. Raine's "Historians," vol. ii., p. 433.

(3) The tomb was opened in 1829, after the great fire, and the Archbishop's body was seen, with the separated head resting on the left arm. Cf. the following note by Archdeacon Creyke in the "Palace Archives:"—"Doubts have been expressed at different periods whether Archbishop Scrope was really beheaded, as the histories record; but I think I am able to bear testimony to the accuracy of the record from personal observation. After the destruction of the Choir of York Minster in the year 1829 by the fire of the incendiary, Jonathan Martin, who was pronounced by law to be a lunatic, it became necessary to repair those tombs in the Lady Chapel which were mutilated by the falling of the roof timbers. That of Archbishop Scrope, situated near the north-east, had suffered as much as any—the stonework above the surface was nearly all destroyed. On removing the broken portions and perhaps a little more, the top of the vault itself was exposed; and by a little further removal of soil, conducted with great care and suitable respect, in the presence of a few persons—of whom I do not recollect that any one is a survivor but myself—the headless remains of the corpse of the Archbishop

"bid fair to be regarded as one of the most sacred shrines in the north. The officers and friends of Henry were able to put a stop to the devotions of the multitude at the grave, but the murdered Prelate lived in the hearts of the people of Yorkshire."<sup>1</sup> It was a crime that struck horror throughout England, and "proud Bolingbroke" must have had much cause to regret his cruelty, if only as a matter of policy. A large silver bowl, presented by Agnes Wyman, wife of the Lord Mayor of York, to the Guild of Corpus Christi,<sup>2</sup> and dedicated by Archbishop Scrope, is among the few remaining treasures of the Minster. Tradition says that the old mulberry tree in the Palace kitchen-yard at Bishopthorpe was planted by him, though naturalists have objected that mulberries were not brought to England till a later date.

A print of the Archbishop, taken from a limning in the British Museum, hangs in the large hall of the dining-room, with the following inscription, recently added by Archbishop Maclagan:—

RICARDUS SCROPE  
Eboracensis Archiepiscopus  
Hac in aula  
A Rege suo Henrico Quarto  
Iniquissime damnatus  
Vicino in agro occisus  
placide occubuit  
viii Die Junii mccccv.

were seen, and the separated head, as placed between the left arm and the body. No relics were discovered, as had been expected. The body was covered with cerecloth, and this had fitted around it closely. The whole was with reverent decency covered over again, and the present plain tomb erected over it."—  
*Stephen Creyke, December 16th, 1868.*

(1) Cf. Raine's "York," p. 82.

(2) Cf. "Guild of Corpus Christi" (Surtees Society), vol. lvii., p. 291. There is a full description of it, by R. Davies, F.S.A., in "Proceedings of the Archaeological Institute," 1846.

Archbishop Bowet's Will<sup>1</sup> is dated at Thorpe, on September 9th, 1421, and an inventory<sup>2</sup> of his goods is preserved in York.

Cardinal Kempe, his successor, 1426-1452, who built so much at Cawood and Southwell, has left no mark here. The interesting picture of him fully vested, which hangs in the dining-room, has lately been given by his collateral descendant, Mr. C. E. Kempe, the well-known artist who designed the beautiful windows in the Chapel.

The house remained as Gray had left it until the time of Thomas Scott, alias Rotherham, who occupied the See from 1480 to 1500. Wherever he lived he left his mark as a benefactor. When Chancellor of Cambridge he built the University Library; when Bishop of Lincoln he completed and endowed Lincoln College, Oxford; as Archbishop of York he enlarged the houses at York Place and Southwell, and founded a College at Rotherham for a provost, five priests, six choristers and three schoolmasters. His handiwork remains here also, for he enlarged the original house very considerably. Archbishop Sharp says<sup>3</sup> that he built "the pantry and bakehouse and chambers over them, even all that row of building which now makes the common room, the hall, housekeeper's room, bakehouse and kitchen below, and the drawing-room, the dining-room, the study and the other chambers above," *i.e.* most of the north corner of the house.

(1) Cf. Raine's "Historians," vol. iii., p. 299.

(2) *Ibid.*, p. 303.

(3) Sharp's "MSS.," p. 158.



Lime Avenue at Bishopthorpe. Planted by Archbishop Sharp about 1700.



It is a little difficult to identify the Archbishop's description of these rooms. Possibly "the bakehouse and kitchen" represent the present steward's room and larder at the east end of this block, in which case the "common room" would be the present butler's room. But I think it more likely that "the common room" means the present steward's room, and that "the hall" included the passage to it as well as the butler's room, and that "the kitchen and bakehouse" were at the west end of the housekeeper's room, in front of the old doorway. These in all probability were pulled down when the rest of the wing was added later, and the present housemaids' room is part of the old kitchen.

If this be so, Sharp gives a list of the rooms in order from east to west. It must be remembered that there was no passage or still room or other rooms in front, but that all the rooms mentioned by Sharp faced the open court, into which the two old remaining doorways opened. There is a window facing south in the housekeeper's room which can be plainly seen, though it is filled up, and the plinth in the wall remains outside.

The doorway into "the hall" (as Sharp calls it) is in the far corner, and has above it the Rotherham arms, carved in stone, viz.: three stags. At right angles to this is another curious piece of old carving representing a sportsman with dogs. The other outer doorway further west also has some decorated stonework, and the inner arch to the housekeeper's room also bears a shield, with Rotherham's arms quartered with those of the See, the pall and crosses.

It is equally difficult to be sure of the description of the chambers above. I can only conjecture that the present

No. 3 was the drawing-room, Nos. 1 and 2 the dining-room, No. 4 the study, and Nos. 5 and 6 "the other chambers above," of which Sharp speaks. We must not forget that until Drummond's time the Archbishops lived chiefly in this wing.

There is little to record about the house for the next two hundred and fifty years. Wolsey<sup>1</sup> was never here, and his knife and fork are the only relics remaining of the greatest of our northern Primates, except the small picture which has been given since Blackburn's time, though it is on wood and probably of contemporary date. He seems to have been always painted with the left profile, it is said because he had lost his right eye. The Archbishops were not much here, so far as is known, during the stormy times of the Reformation, and in consequence the central part of the house was probably much neglected and allowed to fall into decay. There are no pictures of Lee, Holgate, Heath, Young or Harsnet, though there is one of Holgate in his hospital at Hemsworth. Grindall's arms may be seen in a small pane of glass in the butler's room, with his name and the date, 1570.

The small original picture of Archbishop Sandys with his second wife was given by his descendant, Mr. Jordan Sandys, to Archbishop Sharp. He died in 1588, "the memorable year"<sup>2</sup> of the Spanish Armada.

(1) Cardinal Wolsey, when on his way to York to be installed Archbishop, was arrested at Cawood on November 4th, 1530, on the charge of high treason, by the Earl of Northumberland. He died of dysentery on his way to London on November 26th, at Leicester Abbey, thus fulfilling, it is said, the prophecy of an old woman that he would never reach York. Cf. "Life of Cardinal Wolsey," by Richard Fiddes, D.D. Fol. London, 1726. p. 495.

(2) Sharp's "MSS."

The house had a narrow escape from being alienated in 1577, when Queen Elizabeth wished to make it the residence of the President of the Council of the North. Sandys protested against this and the scheme was abandoned. The President, the Earl of Huntingdon, seems actually to have taken possession, for a letter is preserved, written from Bishopthorpe on April 1st, 1577, in which he writes that he is leaving, and in fifteen days means to "yield up all—full sore against my wife's will."<sup>1</sup> John Piers died here in 1594, and his successor, Matthew Hutton in 1605, the year of the Gunpowder Plot. James I was entertained here by Archbishop Toby Matthew in 1617, on his way to Scotland.

After the Dissolution the Abbot's house in the Benedictine Monastery of S. Mary's, York, had been converted into the residence of the President of the North, and was occupied by "the sovereign on those rare occasions when he visited the district;"<sup>2</sup> it is now the Wilberforce School for the blind, and is still one of the most beautiful and ancient buildings in the city.

Many anecdotes are recorded of the witty Prelate, Toby Matthew, of whom there is a good portrait in the dining-room. When Bishop of Durham he took a prominent part in the Hampton Court Conference, January, 1603, and wrote a long account<sup>3</sup> of it to Archbishop Matthew Hutton, concluding his letter as follows:—

(1) "Calendar of State Papers," 1577. Vol. xxv., p. 511.

(2) Raine's "York," p. 180.

(3) Printed in Cardwell's "History of Conferences," pp. 161, 599.



“Thus, with my many humble thanks for your grace’s late fatherly kindness at Bishopthorpe, among the rest of your auncient accustomed favours, and with my most hearty salutations to good Mrs. Hutton, your vertuous yoake-fellow, I take my leave: betaking you both to the grace of God. At Kingstone-upon-Thames, this 19th of January, 1603.

Your grace’s humble at commandment  
and for ever most assured,

TOBIE DURESME.”

He kept a careful record of his sermons, of which he preached 1992 while he occupied the Sees of Durham and York. In 1628 he died at Cawood, and as both his spendthrift sons had become Roman Catholics, his widow<sup>1</sup> wisely gave his valuable library to the Dean and Chapter of York. After his death an inventory was made of his effects, which contained a list of the contents of every room in the house. In the Archbishop’s bedroom there was an old chair of cloth of gold, and a very fair oak chest,<sup>2</sup> barred with iron, “with an outlandish lock and key.” There were 1278 ounces of plate, valued at £308.

In the armoury, one armour of proof and ten corslets, a fowling piece, ten muskets, twenty-four callivers,<sup>3</sup> twenty halberts, a two-handed sword, a target, pikes, pistols, &c.

(1) Mrs. Matthew was the daughter of Bishop Barlow. Each of her four sisters married a Bishop. Her first husband was the son of Archbishop Parker, her second husband Toby Matthew. Cf. “Episcopal Palaces of England,” p. 42, by E. Venables.

(2) This still remains.

(3) *i.e.* a kind of hand-gun (Webster).



TOBIAS MATTHEW, 1606—28.]

[ARTIST UNKNOWN.]



In the dining-room were six pieces of tapestry hangings, and in the gallery were twenty-five pictures. The guest chamber, the little guest chamber, and chaplain's chamber are also mentioned.

Neither Monteign (1628) nor Harsnet (1629-1631) have left any mark in Bishopthorpe. The picture of the former was given by Archbishop Maclagan, and is a copy from that in Fulham Palace. He only occupied the See for a fortnight, for being enthroned on October 24th, he died on November 6th at Cawood, where he was also born.

Samuel Harsnet was formerly Vicar of Chigwell, where he was buried in the Parish Church next to his wife. There is no picture of him, but over his grave there is a recumbent brass effigy of him with mitre and crosier, and the following inscription, the first part of which was written by himself:—

Hic jacet  
SAMUEL HARSNET  
quondam vicarius hujus ecclesiæ,  
primo indignus episcopus Cicestrensis,  
dein indignior Norwicensis,  
demum indignissimus archiepiscopus Eboracensis.

—  
Qui obiit 25 die Maii A.D. 1631,  
quod ipsissimum epitaphium  
ex abundanti humilitate sibi poni curavit,  
testamento reverendissimus præsul.

His successor, Richard Neile, was chosen by Charles I in the following year. He was the devoted friend and adherent of Archbishop Laud, and, like his master, was bitterly hated by the Puritans, who had suffered under his discipline.

His fate would probably have been the same, but he died in 1640 before the "evil day" came, and was buried in All Saints' Chapel in the Minster. He entertained Charles here at Bishopthorpe on May 27th, 1633, when the King knighted his son Sir Paul Neile,<sup>1</sup> and on the next day, having touched a number of persons for the "King's evil," rode away northwards.<sup>2</sup>

His picture in the dining-room is copied from that at Fulham Palace, and was also given by Archbishop Maclagan.

He was followed by his enemy, "Lord Keeper" Williams,<sup>3</sup> who had succeeded Lord Bacon in the Chancellorship on his fall in 1621. There is a picture of him in the familiar wide-brimmed black hat and large ruff of the period.

The main part of the house was probably much dilapidated when it was sold by the Parliament to Colonel Walter White for £525, in 1647. Instead of repairing it, he seems to have lengthened Rotherham's wing and to have added its two gabled projections to the south. Sharp says only "the two wings to Rotherham's building on the south side were added of late by Colonel White;" but he must have lengthened the main wing as well, for Rotherham's

(1) Raine's "York," pp. 119-120. Cf. Bishop Cosin's "Correspondence" (Surtees Society), vol. lv., p. 305.

(2) *i.e.* Scrofula. The superstition that the touch of the Royal hand could effect a cure can be traced back to the time of Edward the Confessor in England, and still earlier in France. Dr. Samuel Johnson was taken from Lichfield to London and was touched by Queen Anne in 1712, who touched on a single day of that year two hundred persons. The touch was usually accompanied by a religious ceremony. Cf. "The Ceremonies for the Healing of the King's Evil." 8vo. London, 1686. York Minster Library.

(3) Williams held Conway Castle, first for the King and then for Parliament. Carlyle prints a short letter from Cromwell to him, written in 1647 (letter xlv).



ACCEPTED FREWEN, 1660—64.]

[ARTIST UNKNOWN.



building did not go far enough for the further projection to be added to it.<sup>1</sup> At the same time no doubt the passage beside the housekeeper's room was added. I cannot tell when the still-room was built.

At the Restoration the See nearly fell to Richard Baxter, whose conscientious scruples, however, prevented his acceptance of a mitre. It was given instead to Accepted Frewen, Bishop of Coventry and Lichfield, the President of the Savoy Conference. The Bishopthorpe property was promptly restored to him, and he wisely directed his attention to the older and more interesting part of the house. The solitary old man must have delighted in such a haven of rest after living for years in hiding, ever since his consecration in 1644, with a price upon his head. The dining-room was now rebuilt from the first floor, with the large bay windows looking on the river. The initials (A.F.) may still be seen on the lead spouting outside, with the date, 1662. The fine plaster frieze and ceiling are very good of their kind, being all hand-work. The compartments all vary in size, probably to prevent the main beam going into the chimney; "though," says Canon Dixon,<sup>2</sup> "if this floor were entirely new, it does not appear why that danger might not have been more scientifically provided against." Frewen's picture hangs in the place of honour over the mantelpiece, with his coat-of-arms. He also built the chambers above, which unfortunately have been rendered useless by the large iron girders which Archbishop Harcourt had to fix to prevent the heavy pendants of the ceiling

(1) We can see exactly where Rotherham's building ends and White's begins in the old cellars of the wing. They are now unused.

(2) Dixon's "MSS.," p. 40.



from falling down. Dixon also says that "the Chapel received considerable repair and alteration on the accession of Archbishop Frewen." Of what this consisted we cannot be quite sure. He probably built the low-pitched roof and debased east window (taken out in 1903), and the door from the dining-room must have been his work, which was built up by Archbishop Magee, and now forms a cupboard.

Richard Sterne, the grandfather of Laurence Sterne, occupied the See from 1665 to 1683. When Master of Jesus College, Cambridge, he sold the college plate for Charles I, and was afterwards expelled, and only narrowly escaped being sold into slavery by Parliament. He was Chaplain to Archbishop Laud, whom he attended on the scaffold, and then retired to keep a private school at Stromage until the Restoration, when he became Bishop of Carlisle. His portrait shows a sad pale face, which bears the marks of suffering. He enlarged the stables here, which then stood on the south side of the drive to the east of the present gateway; and also built a laundry house, which has now disappeared. He died in the house at the good old age of eighty-three, and was buried in S. Stephen's Chapel in the Minster,<sup>1</sup> where his monument now stands.

He was followed by John Dolben, who as a young man had been a cavalier officer. He fought at Marston Moor, and was badly wounded in the siege of York; it is said that the bullet was retained to his dying day. During the Commonwealth he went back to Christ Church, Oxford, where he had been educated, and was ordained

(1) He left his gilt Communion Plate, used in the Chapel at Bishopthorpe, to the Minster, whose plate had been stolen in 1676. Cf. "Surtees Society," vol. xxxv., pp. 140, 317.



RICHARD STERNE, 1664–83.]

[ARTIST UNKNOWN.]



there in 1656. Through the days of persecution he continued, with other brave churchmen at Oxford, to use the prohibited Prayer-Book Services; and there is a well-known picture in the great hall at Christ Church representing him so engaged with his friends, the Censor Allestree, who had also been an officer in the King's army, and Fell, afterwards Dean of the House.

At the Restoration he was made Dean of Westminster, and ordered out the schoolboys to help in extinguishing the great fire of London in 1666. His preaching at the Abbey was famous at the time, and drew crowded congregations.

“Him of the Western Dome, whose mighty sense  
Flowed in fit words and heavenly eloquence.”<sup>(1)</sup>

He died at Bishopthorpe in 1686, having given a set of communion plate to the Parish Church, and having paved “the court-yard with pebbles.”

The following is an entry in Evelyn's Diary, 15th April, 1686:—

“Archbishop of York now died of y<sup>e</sup> small-pox, aged sixty-two, a corpulent man. He was my special loving friend, and whilst at Rochester . . . my excellent neighbour. He was an inexpressible loss to the whole Church, and that province especially, being a learned, wise, stoute, and most worthy Prelate. I look upon this as a great stroke to y<sup>e</sup> poor Church of England now in these defecting days.”

(1) Dryden, *Absalom, and Achitophel*.

He was buried in the south choir of the Minster, where a large monument with a long inscription preserves his memory.

The See was vacant for more than two years, when Thomas Lamplugh, a native of Thwing in the East Riding, and successively Principal of S. Alban's Hall at Oxford, Vicar of St. Martin's, Westminster, Dean of Rochester, and Bishop of Exeter, was translated to York in 1688. He was one of the few who read James II ill-timed "Declaration of Independence," and professed loyalty to him almost to the last, being nominated to the Archbishopric as a reward. Yet he was among the first to turn round and welcome William of Holland, and it was he who was chosen to set the crown upon his head. He was thus able to keep his Archbishopric, but he has left a name that contrasts strangely with that of those, who were ready to go to the Tower rather than please James and deny their Church, and to give up all they possessed rather than please William and deny their lawful King. Sharp says that "he made the screen in the hall at Bishopthorpe, and paved it with pebbles." His full-length portrait by Kneller is perhaps the finest in the dining-room. He died here in 1691, and was buried in the south choir aisle of the Minster, where his monument, the work of Grinling Gibbons, is.

John Sharp, who succeeded him in the same year, was one of the greatest and wisest Churchmen of his day. He was formerly Chaplain to the Earl of Nottingham, the patron of Bishop Bull, and the great care and wisdom shown by that nobleman in his Church appointments is



THOMAS LAMPLUGH, 1688—91.]

[SIR GODFREY KNELLER.



attributed by Robert Nelson<sup>1</sup> to his counsel. He became Rector of S. Giles-in-the-Fields and Dean of Canterbury, and was afterwards the chief adviser of Queen Anne in all matters relating to the Church. His manuscripts, of which I have already spoken, remain to bear witness to his faithful and devoted care both of the diocese and of his estates. He was devoted to gardening, and laid out the grounds with great care, planting the fine lime tree avenue, which still bears his name. He was always here in the summer, and it was his practice to perform his week-day devotions in the open air, "either in his garden or in the adjoining fields and meadows." On Thursdays he used the porch of Acaster Malbis Church during many years for this purpose, and called it his oratory. Another favourite spot was the summer house by the fish pond, which still remains. "Afterwards," says Newcome, who wrote his life, "when the plantations in his garden were grown up to some perfection, he again changed the scene of his thanksgivings, and offered them up in a particular walk, which . . . he called his 'Temple of Praise.' It was a close grass-plot walk lying north and south, and hedged on each side with yew so thick and high as to be at all times of the day, except noon, completely shaded. On the east it hath a little maze or wilderness that grows considerably higher. The entrance into it at each end is through arches made in a lime hedge, and the view through these arches was ultimately bounded by a hedge of hornbeam at one end, and a fruit walk at the other, so that within the walk scarce anything is to be seen but verdure and the open

(1) R. Nelson's "Life of Bishop Bull," p. 238.

(2) Newcome's "Life of Sharp," p. 78.



sky above. In this close-walk and in the adjoining maze he spent many a happy hour, especially in the last years of his life."

His large black letter Bible is still here, and in one of his MS. books there is an inventory of some of the valuables belonging to the House and Chapel, which mentions the communion plate and a large piece of tapestry at the altar with the history of Ananias and Sapphira worked upon it; the latter has now disappeared.

He died at Bath, 1714, in his sixty-ninth year. His monument stands on the east wall of the Ladye Chapel in the Minster. The long Latin epitaph was written by his friend, Bishop Smallridge.<sup>1</sup>

He was succeeded by Sir William Dawes, whose father had been made a baronet by Charles II. His picture is by Kneller; the face bears witness to "the mildness and indulgence" which, according to Drake, marked his character, especially in his "kind and respectful behaviour" to his clergy. Ward<sup>2</sup> says that "the house received great alterations in the hall, dining-room, &c.," at his expense, though what he did nobody seems to know. The imposing Marshal's mace with silver top has his arms engraved upon it. His housekeeper, Mrs. Newton (I quote the palace records) "embezzled the Chapel litany desk, covered with purple damask and gold fringe." A second and inferior oil painting of him hangs in the business-room. He was buried beside his wife in the Chapel of S. Catherine's College, Cambridge, 1724.

(1) Drake's "Eboracum," p. 467.

(2) Ward's "History of York."



LANCELOT BLACKBURN, 1724-43.]

[ARTIST UNKNOWN.]



A mass of legendary matter has gathered round the name of Lancelot Blackburn, who was translated from Exeter to York in 1724. It may be there was some foundation for the stories of his wild youth; if so, he must have had abundant reason to regret it, for he suffered grievously from rumours and accusations in after years. In all probability there were great exaggerations.

He is said to have given the well-known statue of the fiddler<sup>1</sup> to the Minster, which formerly stood over the southern transept and is now in the crypt, and that it was meant to commemorate the following incident in his early life:—As an undergraduate at King's College, Cambridge, he was "gated" for breaking rules and ran away, taking with him his tutor's violin. With this he played his way to London, where for some time he underwent great hardships; after which he went to sea, and finding himself in a pirate vessel, became a buccaneer.

It is not a bad illustration of the "History of a Slander." When we come to enquire into facts, we find that there is no trace of his ever having been at Cambridge; whereas his name remains on the books of Christ Church, Oxford, as having entered at the usual age, and he was a first-rate scholar, which is not very compatible with a rough life a sea.

There is a note to Lord Byron's "Corsair,"<sup>2</sup> which speaks of the great improbability of the buccaneer story; but it has stuck to the unlucky Prelate, and I have been

(1) Cf. Hargrove's "History of York," vol. ii., pt. 1, p. 62.

(2) Canto. 3, xxiv.

told that armour could be seen underneath his robes in his portrait,<sup>1</sup> which is certainly untrue.

If after doubtful antecedents he changed his ways, and taking holy orders rose to fill the highest office in the Church, it is hardly to his discredit. Whether true or not all sorts of rumours dogged his steps, and at one time they compelled him to resign his Archdeaconry of Exeter; he was, however, reappointed, and became successively Dean and Bishop.

Another legend is that the notorious Dick Turpin<sup>2</sup> was his butler at Bishopthorpe, and that a mysterious fire took place under his regime. It is refreshing to turn to the better known and authenticated story of his recommending the great Joseph Butler, then Rector of Stanhope, to the notice of Queen Caroline for preferment. She asked him if he were not dead; "No, madam, but he is buried," was the answer.

He was succeeded in 1743 by Thomas Herring, a Latitudinarian, and suspected, but without good reason, of holding Arian views. His chief memorial here is the full and careful record of his first Visitation, held that same year. The answers to his enquiries are preserved in the library, bound in four folio volumes, including all the parishes of the Diocese with good indices. They are interesting as throwing a great deal of light on Church life and work in Yorkshire, at a period which is often spoken of as one of the darkest in the pages of our

(1) The Archives attribute this picture to Sir Peter Lely; but this is impossible, as that artist died in 1680.

(2) Cf. "Palace Archives," by Archbishop Longley.



THOMAS HERRING, 1743-47.]

[SAID TO BE BY HOGARTH.]



ecclesiastical history.<sup>1</sup> He was a thorough Whig, and took a prominent part in the North against Prince Charles Edward's invasion in 1745.<sup>2</sup> There is a fine portrait of him in the dining-room, said to be by Hogarth, and a second, not so good, in the business-room.

The following letter from his nephew, Thomas Herring, dated at Bishopthorpe in 1743, is printed in Nichol's "Library Anecdotes," and gives us some idea of the house at that time:—

"I am at present under the hospitable roof of an Archbishop, of which I can send you no regular account, for it was built at a time of day when men paid more regard to convenience than to uniformity, and therefore it will be in vain to attempt an exact description of it. The rooms are very large, and furnished in character; and that apartment where I now sit is ornamented with the adventures of Samson curiously wrought in old tapestry, the work, perhaps, of some religious dame. Upon the whole it is a most agreeable house, and pleases me better than if it had been designed by Lord Burlington, or any other genius of the age."

A stone outside the present kitchen bears the date 1747, which indicates, I suppose, that this part of the house was begun by Matthew Hutton, who occupied the See for a few months only in that year.

(1) An account of this Record, with special reference to the Archdeaconry of York, was printed in the "Church Times," January 8th, 1897.

(2) Cf. Framed appeal in lower part of Minster Library.



John Gilbert was translated from Salisbury to succeed him. "He altered the windows in the large dining-room, laid the floor in the hall with Roche Abbey stone and black marble, repaired the staircase in the hall, and ornamented the walls and ceiling like the old drawing-room above stairs (afterwards the library of Archbishop Markham), and in the place where the pigeon-house formerly stood he built a wash-house, and over it a laundry."<sup>1</sup>

He seems to have given the Archbishop's Stall to the Chapel, "which," says Canon Dixon, "previously to the alterations in 1840 had over it a clumsy canopy supported by two pillars, which when the curtains were drawn had very much the appearance of a four-post bed. This, from the coat-of-arms over the chair, may safely be assigned to the taste of Archbishop Gilbert."<sup>2</sup>

So far the west front of the house remained more or less as Gray had left it. It is a pity that there is no picture of it. A great change came when Gilbert's successor, the Hon. Robert Hay Drummond, followed him from Salisbury to York. He was devoted to building, and did not spare expense; but the period was against him, and with the best intentions he did much that we now regret during the few years of his tenancy.

We have already seen how he pulled down the old Church; he did not quite pull down the Manor House, but it was entirely transformed. In 1763 he began by building the present stables, pulling down the old ones on the other side of the gateway. The new buildings included coach-

(1) Dixon's "MSS.," p. 42.

(2) "Ibid.," p. 33. Cf. "Life of Bishop Newton," his Chaplain.



WILLIAM MARKHAM, 1777—1807.]

[SIR JOSHUA REYNOLDS  
A DUPLICATE IS AT CH. CH., OXFORD.



house, bake-house and brew-house, with large living-rooms on the first floor. The gateway was finished in 1765, being built partly with stone brought from Cawood. The clock was probably taken from the old stables, for the inside dial bears the name of Archbishop Herring, with the date 1744.

He next turned his attention to the house, whose appearance and character he entirely changed, not for the better, though his enlargements have been convenient, enabling the family to use the dining-room and Chapel without going continually backwards and forwards to the wing where the chief sitting-rooms had been, since Rotherham's time.

He pulled down the old Early English front, and brought the whole house forward by the width of the present drawing-room, which was then built. At the same time the entrance hall was doubled in size, and the "audience-room" (now the business-room) was added at the west end of the Chapel, to make the whole symmetrical. This of course involved the destruction of the west window. The Chapel windows were filled with painted glass by Peckett of York, the east window containing shields, which are now in the business-room. "The black and white marble pavement of the Chapel was probably laid at the same time."

Below the new rooms were the servants' hall, the pantry and the man-servant's bedroom. The portico and steps belong to the same date. The work was designed and carried out by Thomas Atkinson of York, and finished in 1769. The marble chimney-piece in the dining-room is also Drummond's work, as well as the chambers above

the drawing-room and business-room. Within, the rooms are lofty and well proportioned, but the old character of the house was completely destroyed and replaced by the fashionable "Strawberry Hill" style of the period.

Dr. Markham, who succeeded Drummond in 1777, built a pigeon-house, a large ice-house, a pinery, and spent a good deal of money on the kitchen garden, building a flood wall 181 feet long, which is still standing.

His picture is by Sir Joshua Reynolds. Archbishop Harcourt used to tell the following story about it :—When he was a young man he was dining at Bishopthorpe with Archbishop Markham, and observing that the portrait opposite was much faded, he said to his next door neighbour, "Who can be the unhappy man who painted such a picture?" "I am that unhappy man," was the reply. It was Sir Joshua himself who saw, moreover, that the criticism was not altogether unmerited, for he took the picture home to be retouched and improved. It is a fine portrait. You can almost see the old man move, and it is thought to have inspired Richmond to paint Archbishop Longley in almost the same attitude. The picture of George II, which hangs outside the library, is also said to be by Reynolds.

Edward Venables Vernon, Bishop of Carlisle, was translated to York in 1808, on Markham's death. He occupied the See until 1847, nearly forty years, having been a Bishop for the long period of fifty-six years. He took the additional name of Harcourt in 1831, when he inherited the estates of the last Earl Harcourt, who died childless. There is a portrait of the latter in the large picture of George III outside the library, which was given



EDWARD-VERNON-HARCOURT, 1808-47.]

[PAINTED BY OWEN  
RETOUCHED BY JACKSON.



to the Archbishop by the artist, Benjamin West, in 1819. The autograph letter which accompanied it, recording his attachment to the King and to the Earl, is preserved in the Palace "Archives." Considerable alterations were made to the house from time to time during this period. The small inner drawing-room (now the library) with the chambers above was built, said to have been originally intended for a billiard-room. The Chapel was fitted with oak sittings, and the white paint removed from the curious old carved oak pulpit, and the bedrooms over it were added—a deplorable piece of work. The long projection to the wing on the north side was also built, which included the large rooms occupied by the Duchess of Kent and the Princess Victoria in 1835. It was probably Harcourt who raised the eastern part of Rotherham's building and the large chimney to their present height, and took away the mullions and the labels from the windows; but it is almost impossible to tell at what particular time all the many alterations have been made.

In 1810 he added to the pleasure grounds all the portion beyond the Lime Tree Avenue, which formerly was called the Warren; most of the trees there were planted by him.

His custom was to spend one-third of the year at Nuneham—his family place near Oxford, one-third in London, and the remainder at Bishopthorpe. These four months were considered sufficient for all Diocesan duties—not then so exacting as now—although all Yorkshire and the County of Nottingham were in the Diocese of York until 1836. He had a large private fortune besides his official income, and lived in great style, practising the virtue



of hospitality with lavish munificence. He and his wife Lady Ann were very kind to the parishioners, and are still much remembered in the village. Twice every week, on Tuesdays and Fridays, the poor from York and beggars of all descriptions flocked to Bishopthorpe, receiving two loaves of bread and a silver threepenny-piece each. The vessels on the river saluted as they went past, and in return were supplied with beer and refreshments. There were many grievances when it all came to an end, as it necessarily did at the Archbishop's death. The income of the See was much reduced, and it was both undesirable and impossible for his successor to continue all such bounties; but it was rather hard on Archbishop Musgrave when the people wrote outside the gateway,—“God bless the *old* Archbishop, he was good to the poor.” The vessels ceased to salute and now too often turn on their smoke when they pass the Palace.

The Princess Victoria and her mother came here on September 3rd, 1835, and stayed for nearly a week. Some of the older parishioners well remember seeing them drive down the lane from the Tadcaster road, escorted by the Yorkshire Hussars, between crowds of spectators. They spent the Sunday quietly in Bishopthorpe, worshipping in the Parish Church; the other days were chiefly devoted to functions in York, including a Choral Festival in the Minster.

Archbishop Harcourt lived to be 90. At the meeting in York after Jonathan Martin's fire, he said that at his age he could hardly hope to live to see the restoration completed; he not only did this, but saw the later restoration after the second fire in 1842 also carried out. He



ARCHBISHOP LONGLEY, 1860—62.]

[GEORGE RICHMOND.



preached a farewell sermon in the Minster on November 13th, 1838, and gradually did less of active work, Bishop Longley, of Ripon, taking his duty in the Diocese for some months in each year, in recognition of which the Archbishop paid for the building of the Chapel of the Palace at Ripon. He continued, however, to enjoy good health, and visited York to inspect the repairs of the Chapter-House only four days before his death.<sup>1</sup> This took place on the evening of November 5th, 1847, in the room north of the dining-room. He was buried at Stanton Harcourt, in Oxfordshire.

Thomas Musgrave was translated from Hereford to York in the following year. The story goes that he was the son of a tailor at Cambridge who used to make clothes for Archbishop Harcourt. On one occasion the father having to come to Bishopthorpe brought his son with him and placed him where he could see the great Archbishop. The next time that son entered the house was as Archbishop himself. He was here for twelve years, and some of the older parishioners remember his and Mrs. Musgrave's many acts of kindness, and tell how fond he was both of his garden and his farm.<sup>2</sup> The Italian garden on the north side of the house was laid out in his time under the direction of Nesfield.

Archbishop Longley came in 1860. He was only here for two short years, after which he was translated to Canterbury. So far as I know he has only left behind him the valuable book of Archives already mentioned.

(1) Cf. "Annual Register," 1847.

(2) Middlethorpe Grange was then the Archbishop's House Farm.

His picture by Richmond is excellent, and there is a print of him in the entrance hall with his five signatures, for he occupied four Sees in succession—Ripon, Durham, York and Canterbury, and after all had the honour of dying a poor man.

Archbishop Thomson was translated from Gloucester to York in 1863, and remained here till his death. The water tower was built soon after he came, which supplied the house until 1898. At the same time the skylights were placed in the roof above the front staircase. The six small rooms built over the Chapel by Archbishop Harcourt were altered and rearranged, and two large new windows were made in them facing south. A gasometer was built in the stable yard, which supplied the house and Chapel with gas. The old fish pond in the valley was drained, and the shrubs were planted there between the house and the Church. In 1867 the York gas was laid on to the Church and village, and from that time the gasometer ceased to be used.

The Prince and Princess of Wales visited the Archbishop in 1866, arriving on August 9th and remaining until the 11th, and occupying the large rooms in the north wing already mentioned. Before they left they planted two Wellingtonias on the south side of the drive.

His portrait was painted by Oules, and was a present from his grateful Diocese in 1886; it cost 700 guineas, but the subscription amounted to £1,025, and the balance was expended in a marble bust by Mr. Onslow Ford, which was given to Mrs. Thomson. He was much beloved and will be long remembered by the parishioners of Bishopthorpe. He died on Christmas Day, 1890, and was buried



WILLIAM THOMSON, 1863—90.]

[W. O'LEARY, R.A.]



in the Churchyard on December 30th. The spot is marked by a lofty granite cross. He and Archbishop Drummond are the only two of the eighty-eight Archbishops of York whose bodies rest at Bishopthorpe.

William Connor Magee, the eloquent Bishop of Peterborough, succeeded him in January, 1891, and was enthroned in the Minster on March 17th. He was only here for a few short weeks, during which he had the lift made from the basement to the upper floor, and (what is more interesting) he closed Frewen's door from the dining-room to the Chapel, making the present entrance from the front hall, which is far more convenient. It is close beside Gray's original doorway, which could not be re-opened owing to the mural decoration of the hall. His portrait is a copy of one by Holl, and was presented to the gallery at Bishopthorpe by the present Archbishop.

Archbishop Magee died of influenza at Garland's Hotel, in London, on May 5th, 1891, and was buried in Peterborough Cathedral on May 9th, where a fine effigy has been placed to his memory.

He was succeeded by William Dalrymple Maclagan, Bishop of Lichfield, who was enthroned in the Minster on September 15th, 1891.

Considerable alterations have been made in the house and gardens since he came. The wharf, which had become ruinously unsafe, has been thoroughly repaired with new piles, and is very useful for the arrival of summer parties who come by steam from York. The boudoir has been reduced in length by about four feet, and in this space a wooden staircase constructed, giving access to the river terrace by a door through one of Gray's Early English



windows; part of the south projection from the north wing has been removed, sacrificing some small dressing-rooms, but greatly improving the Archbishop's library by letting in the light.

In 1894 a large room was added to the house by enclosing a portion of the mulberry-tree yard between the kitchen and the garden wall. The room has doorways into the Chapel, business-room, yard and garden, and is most useful for gatherings of many kinds, as it holds some two hundred people.

Lastly and chiefly we have to record the restoration and beautifying of the Chapel, which was carried out by the Archbishop in 1892. The floor was lowered ten inches, and this made it possible to add three steps in the sanctuary. The painted iron heating apparatus, which blocked the centre, was removed, and a new chamber for the purpose was added in the crypt, which had been used for a laundry. The throne and pulpit were removed, and the sanctuary was paved with squares of polished black and white marble. The paint was carefully brushed from the walls with strong acids, leaving the fine thirteenth century ashlar as fresh as when it was built. The arcading and stone bench round the Chapel were restored, with the exception of the south-east corner, where the base of the column of the old Piscina can be traced,<sup>1</sup> as well as fragments of what was perhaps a side-altar on the south side of the east wall. An aumbry was found in the north wall of the sanctuary, to which new oak doors were fixed. The beautiful doorway on the same side, which had been built up with stone, was reopened, the mouldings being found almost as sharp as when they were first cut. This door formerly opened into

(1) This has, since, been restored (Ed., A.P.P.C.).

the great hall, and behind the wooden panelling erected by Accepted Frewen can be plainly seen traces of arcading similar to that of the Chapel. A light jib-door enables this to be seen, and within on the right side is a cherub's head daintily carved in stone.

Nothing could be done to improve the debased five-light east window, which was taken out and replaced by three lancets, corresponding to those on the south wall of the Chapel, which are perfect specimens of the best thirteenth century Gothic, known in architecture as "hooded lancets."

The new oak panelling was made to match the Jacobean work of the pews of Frewen's time, parts of which are used, though it is difficult to distinguish the new from the old. A carved and canopied stall for the Archbishop, and two stalls for his Suffragans occupy the west end, with stalls for two Chaplains behind the entrance door. The other seats are placed chapel-wise, for women on the north and for men on the south side. The Chapel holds about sixty, but with chairs ninety or a hundred can be seated. The structural alterations are the work of Mr. Ewan Christian; the decoration is by Mr. Kempe, who also designed all the stained glass. The east window contains an idealized conception of the Redeemer; the eyes are open, the kingly crown appears above the crown of thorns, the wounds are glorified, and the cross is surrounded by Angels "rejoicing over the finished work of redemption." On either side are the figures of S. Gabriel and S. Michael. Below S. Gabriel is the Annunciation, below the Crucifixion the Virgin and Child, below S. Michael the Vision of the Shepherds. The five south windows are intended to

illustrate the Church in the Northern Province. The first represents S. Andrew, the patron-saint of Bishopthorpe; and S. Peter, the patron-saint of the Minster, which is depicted at his feet. This window was given in memory of Archbishop Thomson by Dr. Thorold, Bishop of Winchester, who was formerly his Chaplain, and Canon-Residentiary of York 1874-1877. His arms are shown in the corner. The second window represents the Keltic Mission to Britain:—S. Columba above with Iona Cathedral at his feet, and below, S. Aidan the Evangelist of Northumbria, with a stag crouching at his feet. The third window represents the Roman Mission:—Gregory the Great is shown above with the traditional dove upon his shoulders; below is S. Paulinus, the first Archbishop of York; at his feet Angels hold the shields of the four Sees with which his name is connected,—York, Southwell, Lincoln and Rochester. This window was given by Lady Mary Currie in memory of Archbishop Thomson.

The fourth window contains S. Chad, who after five years in the See of York retired to Lavingham, and then became the first Bishop of Lichfield, where he died in 672. He holds Lichfield Cathedral in his arms. Below is the Venerable Bede.<sup>1</sup>

The fifth window was given by the Archbishop's two younger children. It represents S. Hilda, the famous Abbess of Whitby; and below, S. Edwin, the first Christian King of Northumbria, holding the plan of the first Minster at York, which he began to build. The ceiling is coloured by Kempe in alternate squares of red and green, those

(1) This window was given by the Rev. Ed. V. Bryan, Chaplain to Archbishop Maclagan.

within the sanctuary being enriched with gilt monograms. Above the north wall runs the legend, "Sitivit anima mea ad Deum fortem vivum; quando veniam et apparibo ante faciem Dei."—Ps. xlii, 2 . . . above the south wall, "Beati qui lavant stolas suas in sanguine Agni—Videbunt faciem ejus et nomen ejus in frontibus eorum."—Rev. xxii, 14. 4.

On the north wall, where the original doorway was, an alabaster tablet records the foundation and restoration of the Chapel by Archbishops Gray and Maclagan, with their arms, and the two shields of the Province of York.<sup>1</sup> It bears the following inscription:—

"Hoc sacellum a Waltero Gray magni consilii præsule  
vii<sup>mo</sup> abhinc sæculo exstructum recentiore ævo multos per  
annos deformatum in Dei gloriam refecit et ornavit Willelmus  
Dalrymple Eboracensis Archiepiscopus anno salutis MDCCCXCII  
Domine dilexi decorem domus Tuæ."

The Chapel is at once the most interesting and most ancient part of the old Manor House, whose story I have tried to tell. It has witnessed many changes in Church and State, and its walls could tell many secrets if they could speak. Kings and Queens as well as Archbishops have knelt there. Hundreds of young men have there received with the laying on of hands the sacred commission to serve in the Lord's sacred ministry. We cannot but be thankful, that while all the rest of the upper part of the house has gone, time has spared this peaceful oratory, which has always been reserved for the same sacred purpose to which it was dedicated in the thirteenth century, to be restored by the present Archbishop with loving care to its former beauty.

(1) The above account of the alterations in the house, and restoration of the Chapel by the present Archbishop is copied almost verbatim from "Archives of the See of York."



## CHAPTER X.

### PRE-REFORMATION RESIDENCES OF THE ARCHBISHOPS OF YORK.

**W**E do not know much about the Residences of the Archbishops of York in early Saxon times, nor is there very much to be known. They were missionaries, travelling about from place to place, strengthening the stakes of the Church by planting centres in the chief towns of the diocese, Beverley, Ripon, Southwell and York, and lengthening its cords by preaching, baptizing and confirming in the outlying parts of the great kingdom of Northumbria.

Nor must we forget that they were not only missionaries, but most of them were monks. As soon as they could they built a monastery, which became their headquarters; the refuge to which they were only too glad to return from time to time, to enjoy its peaceful quiet and retirement after the turmoil of the outside world. Paulinus was sent by Pope Gregory from the monastery of S. Andrew at Rome to join Augustine in 601. S. Chad came from

the monastery at Lastingham in 664, and gladly returned to it five years later. S. John of Beverley, in the next century, lived and worked amongst his fellow-monks in the old town, where he is still so much remembered.<sup>1</sup> Archbishop Egbert, the founder of the great school at York, which for many years attracted students from all parts of Europe, lived in his Cathedral city. His famous pupil Alcuin, the friend of Charlemagne, has left us the following interesting sketch of his master's daily life in York when not occupied with the cares of the diocese:—  
 “As soon as he was at leisure in the morning he sent for some of the young clerks, and sitting on his couch taught them successively till noon, at which time he retired to his private Chapel and celebrated Mass. After dinner, at which he ate sparingly, he amused himself with hearing his pupils discuss literary questions in his presence. In the evening he recited with them the Service of Compline, and then calling them in order he gave his blessing to each as they knelt in succession at his feet.”<sup>2</sup> The description reminds us of Bishop Lightfoot or Dean Vaughan in our own day, spending all their spare time with the young men whom they were training for the ministry.

We read that Egbert's successors, Archbishops Albert and Eanbald I, also lived in their monastery at York, though we must not suppose that the Minster or its Canons were ever monastic. Canon Raine says, “The Minster at

(1) Though Mr. Leach in his new account of Beverley Minster will have nothing to say to him. Cf. “Surtees Society.”

(2) Vita Alcuini apud Acta SS. ord. S.B., sæc. iv. i. 149. Quoted in Raine's “Fasti Ebor.,” p. 98.

York was never occupied by monks. The observance of order and discipline may have been pressed upon the Canons . . . but they never became monks in the proper sense of that word. They lived upon a common fund, and had a common dormitory or refectory, from which it may be inferred that they were unmarried, but they were never Benedictines."

The question is often asked why the Cathedral at York and other well-known Churches are called Minsters when there was no proper monastery attached to them. The best answer that I can give is in the words of Bishop Stubbs,<sup>1</sup> who says, "The Bishop's house contained a number of clerks, priests, monks and nuns, and was both a home of retreat to the weary missionary and a school for the young. These inmates lived by a sort of rule, which was regarded as monastic, and the house and Church were the Monasterium or Minster."

Such we may suppose to have been the home of most of the Saxon Archbishops of York. The last of them, Aldred, according to Leland,<sup>2</sup> built a refectory and dormitory in the Bedern, only too soon to be destroyed<sup>3</sup> by the ruthless hand of William the Conqueror. But before this time, whether monks or not, they had acquired other lands and houses of their own, chiefly through the munificence of the Saxon King, Athelstan, in the tenth century. From that time until the Reformation their estates were multiplied, and the Prelates of York ranked among the largest

(1) Stubbs's "Const. Hist.," vol. i., viii., p. 85.

(2) Leland's "Coll.," iv., 102-103.

(3) Cf. Raine's "Fasti Ebor.," p. 146.



WILLIAM MAGEE.]

[COPY FROM FRANK HOLL.





landed proprietors in the North of England. It is said that they could boast of estates in nine counties, viz.: Northumberland, Cumberland, Westmoreland, Durham, Yorkshire, Nottinghamshire, Gloucestershire, Middlesex and Surrey. These chiefly consisted of manors or lordships, many of them held from Saxon times. Twenty-one are mentioned by name in a Bull' of Innocent III respecting the estates of Archbishop Walter Gray (1215-1255). The Minsters of Beverley, Ripon and Southwell, and the Priors of Hexham and of S. Oswald at Gloucester also belonged to the See of York. We can understand how it was worth the while of such Kings as John to keep the See vacant for a number of years, and to appropriate the revenues. Nor were the Popes forgetful, for they claimed from the Archbishops 10,000 ducats as first fruits, and an additional 5,000 for the Pall.

There is no room to give a list of all these estates in detail; we know the names of most of them from catalogues made in the reign of Henry VIII. It is not easy to say how many of them possessed residences used by the Archbishops. People are now-a-days inclined to think that one is enough for a Bishop, if not for an Archbishop, and to consider the many houses which belonged to the mediæval Prelate as among the abuses of the times. It is certainly a surprise to find that the Archbishops of York had some sixteen or seventeen at least, from one to another of which they were constantly moving. It seems a large number, but we must not look upon it as mere evidence of superfluous wealth or luxury.

(1) Cf. "Surtees Society," vol. lvi., p. 125.

Before the days of railways or coaches, when travelling was slow and difficult, not to say dangerous, the system had its obvious advantages. It enabled a Bishop to visit the different parts of his diocese, and by a residence of a few weeks in each year in his different houses to hold Confirmations in widely-scattered centres, and to acquire a personal knowledge of his clergy and laity, and of the needs of each neighbourhood. Besides this, the income of the See being almost entirely derived from the rents of land, he had his duties as landlord, often as lord of the manor, and it was desirable that from time to time he should perform them in person, seeing that his stewards were administering the estates properly, and that justice was being done to his various tenants. In the twelfth century, the Archbishops of York exercised an almost regal authority in their baronies of Beverley, Ripon, Sherburn, Patrington, Otley and Wilton.<sup>1</sup> They had in each their own prisons, gallows, pillory and ducking stool. They appointed the justices, with full power to try and execute criminals. Some of this secular jurisdiction, *e.g.* the appointment of magistrates, lasted well into this century.

We must not imagine that a Bishop's house in those days was like a nineteenth century mansion. The more important consisted of a large hall, a Chapel, a dormitory, with a kitchen, a few private rooms and large outbuildings; the lesser ones were only small manor houses. A retinue of chaplains, officials and servants travelled about with their master from place to place. When they went away the house would be left with only a steward to take care

(1) Oliver's "History of Beverley," p. 86.

of it. When he visited Hexham, the Archbishop seems to have lodged with the Prior of the monastery. Hexhamshire remained in the Diocese of York until 1837.

A Bishop's head-quarters were naturally in his Cathedral City, and his residence there was alone called the Palace. It is a modern misnomer to apply the word to any episcopal house wherever situated. Not one of the Archbishop's many houses mentioned in the old Registers is ever called "Palace," excepting that at York. It was always "Bishopthorpe Manor," not "Bishopthorpe Palace," until comparatively recent times.

Canon Raine, in his interesting preface<sup>1</sup> to Walter Gray's Register, gives an itinerary, derived from the dates of documents in a single year (1228), which illustrates an Archbishop's movements at that period. It is as follows:

Knareborough	-	Jan. 11.	Aug. 21.	Oct. 20.
Bishopthorpe	-	Jan. 15 and 16.	May 1.	
Scrooby	- - -	Jan. 23.	March 12.	Dec. 11 and 28
Otley	- - -	Feb. 10 and 14.		
Sherburn	- - -	Feb. 24.	Nov. 9.	Dec. 9.
Cawood	- - -	March 20, 28, 29.	April 29.	
		May 5, 23, 24.	Aug. ?	Sept. 18.
Laneham	- - -	April 7, 13, 14, 23.	Aug. 28.	
Shelford	- - -	May 31.		
Aylestone	- - -	June 1.		
Churchdown	- - -	June 17.		
Oddington	- - -	July 6.		
Hunsdon	- - -	July 11.		
Wenlock	- - -	Oct 7.		
Clareborough	- - -	Dec. 1.		

(1) "Surtees Society," vol. lvi.

These were not all residences attached to the See of York; one or two were religious houses, and Knaresborough Castle belonged to the King, and was used by Gray during his regency. But most of them belonged to the Archbishops, besides other houses at London, York and Southwell, which are not mentioned in this particular year.

A great change came in the sixteenth century, when Henry VIII, whose appetite for his neighbours' houses and goods was insatiable, not only destroyed the monasteries and sacked Cathedrals and Churches in order to fill his coffers, but laid his hands on all the ecclesiastical property he could get. The large estates of the Archbishops of York did not escape his covetous eye, and after Wolsey's death his plan was to nominate Prelates who would not mind impoverishing the See, provided that their own interests did not suffer. Archbishop Lee (1531-1544) began the evil work by giving to the King the Manors of Beverley, Southwell and others, in exchange for some monastic spoils. "But this," says Drake,<sup>1</sup> "was no very ill bargain, the Church suffered little by the exchange, especially compared with the great devastation made in the time of his immediate successor." This was Robert Holgate, who was appointed in 1544. He appears to have been altogether a most unsatisfactory person, a married ex-monk, nominated by the King with the express object of alienating Church property. Within a month of his translation from Llandaff he transferred to the Crown no less than thirteen Manors in Northumberland and the neighbouring counties, forty in Yorkshire, six in Nottinghamshire, and eight in

(1) Drake's "Eboracum," p. 451.

Gloucestershire. It was a very profitable transaction for himself, as appeared when his houses were ransacked in Mary's time, but all that the See received in exchange was thirty-three rectories with a few vicarages, out of monastic spoil. Queen Mary, with all her faults, had a horror of sacrilege. She was continually trying to secure the return of confiscated property to the Church, though with little success. She was able, however, to grant Suffolk House to Archbishop Heath in lieu of Whitehall, and to restore Ripon, Southwell, and several manors. "In truth," says Archbishop Sharp,<sup>1</sup> "the See of York owes to Queen Mary and this Archbishop (Heath) more than a third part of the revenues that the Archbishop now enjoys."

Since her time the houses in London, York, Cawood and Southwell, in fact all excepting Bishopthorpe have disappeared; but there has not been much change in the estates, except that they have been taken over by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. In these times of railway travelling the loss is not so great as it might have been, and in some ways it is an actual gain. Many houses would only be a burden now-a-days, and even if they had remained standing the vindictive legislation of 1836 would have taken them away.

A short account of most of the old residences follows, beginning with those in the Archbishop's own county, where these estates were so large, and the distances to be traversed so great, that eight or nine houses were not found too many.

(1) Sharp's "MSS."

## YORK.

The Palace stood on the north side of the Minster. It was a noble building extending the whole length of the northern side from the present "Residence" to the new Deanery. The only traces remaining are a few arches of the hall, or of the cloister leading to the hall, and the beautiful Early English Chapel,<sup>1</sup> now converted into the Minster Library. It was begun by Archbishop Roger (1154-1181) and much enlarged by Walter Gray, the builder of Bishopthorpe, to whom Henry III made a grant of additional land by the walls for the purpose.

The Palace lasted in all its magnificence until after the Reformation. The work of destruction was then begun by Archbishop Young (1560-1568), Grindal's unsatisfactory predecessor, who married late in life, and pulled down the great hall that he might sell the lead off the roof to provide an estate for his son. It was "plumbi sacra fames," says Harington,<sup>2</sup> which made him destroy a building erected nearly five hundred years before. The same writer expresses the charitable wish that some of the lead had been melted and poured down his throat. From this time the Palace ceased to be occupied by the Archbishops, and what remained of it was let. In Sharp's time part of it was rented in tenements as S. William's College now is, but the main portion of the house was for many years let to the Ingram family until it was

(1) Called the Chapel of S. Andrew in the Minster Library Plan. "Having long been in a ruinous state it was repaired by Dean Markham in 1810, and in 1813 appropriated by him to the reception of the Library of the Dean and Chapter." Cf. "Archives of the See," p. 38.

(2) Quoted in Drake's "Eboracum," p. 454.

finally pulled down in the thirties. The little "Keep" at the western end was called "Peter's prison," and near this in olden days was the Archbishop's private entry to the Minster through the beautiful S. Sepulchre's Chapel, long ago destroyed. Plans, showing what remained of the whole building early in this century, are preserved in the Chapter Clerk's Office and in the Minster Library.

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#### SHERBURN.

Sherburn-in-Elmet is a village about half-way between Leeds and Selby. In the tenth century it was a Royal Manor containing a Palace of King Athelstan. He is said to have given the estate and the house to the Archbishop of York in 938, as a thank-offering for his victory over the Danes. It was the only spot spared by William the Conqueror in his terrible vengeance on York and the neighbourhood in 1070. This was due to its being the house of Archbishop Aldred, who had crowned him at Westminster. It continued to be one of the chief Archiepiscopal residences until the time of William de Melton, when it was almost destroyed by the invading Scotch forces who had just conquered the Yorkshiremen at the battle of Myton in 1319.<sup>1</sup> The house was never rebuilt, and by Thoresby's time (1352-1373) had become so dilapidated, that he ordered it to be taken down, and used the stone for building the Ladye Chapel of the

(1) In our Latin Chronicle it is said to have been given to Archbishop Oskytel by King Edgar, with Southwell. Cf. Raine's "Historians of the See of York," vol. ii., p. 340.

(2) Cf. Raine's "Letters from Northern Registers." Rolls Series, pp. 294-5.



Minster, which is his great memorial. From this time we hear little of Sherburn in connection with the Archbishops, and gradually most of the land was sold. The only trace now left of the old Manor is a field called "Hall Garth."

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#### CAWOOD CASTLE.

The village of Cawood stands on the west bank of the Ouse about six miles above Selby. Like Sherburn, it was given to the Archbishops of York by King Athelstan in the tenth century. At first there was only an ordinary Manor House, of which we do not hear much before the end of the thirteenth century, though many of Walter Gray's documents are dated there. Archbishop Giffard (1266-1276) obtained permission of Henry III to pull down the house, and to rebuild it as a castle—"ad modum castri." In time it became a strong fortress, which gave it political as well as ecclesiastical importance. In the then disturbed state of the North, and frequent fighting which prevailed, it was an advantage for the Archbishops to have a fortified stronghold to which they could retire; and this, added to its convenient position on the river, was doubtless the reason why it became one of their most favourite residences. It was also the scene of their most magnificent hospitality. If "his Grace of York" wished to entertain on a royal scale, he chose Cawood Castle for the purpose. Henry III and Queen Eleanor were lodged here on their way to Scotland in 1255. In 1299 it acquired still greater fame as a royal residence, when Edward I left his Queen here from 1299 to 1304, while he was fighting against the Scots, returning



W. DALRYMPLE MACLAGAN.]

[REPLICA OF THE PORTRAIT AT LICHFIELD  
BY SIR H. HERKOMER, R.A.



to spend each winter with her. Here poor Edward II, during his troubled reign, often sought a refuge in the home of his happier childhood. Alexander Nevill considerably enlarged the castle in the reign of Richard II. Henry Bowet (1407-1423), famous for his magnificence, built the great hall. Cardinal Kempe (1426-1452) spent much money on the place, and it seems to have been his favourite Yorkshire residence during his long tenure of the See. The gateway, which is almost all that is left, still bears his arms with the Cardinals' Hat. He was succeeded by George Nevill, younger brother of Warwick the "King-maker," whose Installation Feast on the 15th of January, 1466, has become proverbial. Leland has preserved an account of it, with lists of all the chief guests, their arrangement at the different tables, and a wonderful *menu* of the courses at the banquet. It is calculated that some eighteen hundred persons were present. A full account of it will be found in Dean Purey-Cust's "Heraldry of York Minster." He shows that it was really a great political demonstration of the Nevill faction against King Edward IV, who doubtless remembered it, when a few years later he seized the Archbishop's estates and banished him to France.

Archbishop Rotherham died of the plague at Cawood in 1500, and his successor (Savage) also died here in 1507. The castle again became famous as the scene of poor Wolsey's arrest. Here it was that he spent the last few quiet weeks of his eventful life, with

"A peace above all earthly dignities,  
A still and quiet conscience"<sup>1</sup>

(1) Shakespeare's "Henry VIII," iii., 2.

confirming hundreds of children, and preparing for his installation in the Minster, which never took place. He died a few days after he had left (on November 29th, 1530), at Leicester Abbey. Cawood continued for many years to be the occasional residence of the Archbishops, though its old glory was gone, never to return. George Montaigne,<sup>1</sup> a native of the place, died here in 1628, only a fortnight after his enthronement, and his monument remains in the Parish Church. Williams was the last Archbishop to occupy the old castle. In July, 1642, it was surrounded by the Parliamentary troops, and he had to fly for his life by night. It was dismantled in 1646 by Act of Parliament, along with several other Yorkshire castles, and has since been a gradually diminishing ruin.<sup>2</sup> The property remained in possession of the Archbishops of York until 1882, when it was taken over by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, who still hold the old "Manor Court" in the room over Kempe's gateway.

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#### RIPON.

The Manor of Ripon is said, like so many others, to have been given to the Archbishops by the faithful Athelstan in the tenth century. Long before that time, however, they had a close connection with the Minster, of which Wilfrid was regarded as the founder and one of the patron-saints; and it was only natural that they should have a residence within its precincts. The house

(1) Cf. "York Diocesan Magazine," October, 1904.

(2) I am indebted for much of the above information to Wheater's "History of Sherburn and Cawood."

was called "Manor Hall," and stood on a site north of the nave, which is still called "Hall Yard." Part of it remained as the old "Court House" until 1830, and there were some mediæval frescoes on the walls. It was ruthlessly destroyed when the present Court House was built. There was also a fine park belonging to the Archbishops on the north side of the city, which Leland<sup>1</sup> mentions as being six miles in circumference. Whether they had another house adjoining this or not I am not clear. Their secular power at Ripon was very great as at Otley and elsewhere, with the result of not infrequent friction with the city authorities. This may account for its not being one of their favourite residences in mediæval times to judge from the dates of the registers.

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#### OTLEY.

I have been able to discover very little about the house here. By Edward the Confessor's time the Archbishops had become lords of the district of Otley, then containing eighty-one square miles. Their secular power was hardly less than their ecclesiastical, and so far as the appointment of magistrates was concerned lasted on into this century. Whitaker<sup>2</sup> says that "there was no castle here, but only an ordinary manor house." It stood at the north end of the town and at one time seems to have been often occupied by its owners, for twenty-five of Gray's documents bear the date. The kitchens are

(1) Cf. "Memorials of Ripon." Surtees Society, i., p. 86.

(2) "Loidis," p. 184.

said to have been built by Archbishop Bowet, who has the reputation of taking a special interest in that part of his premises. The present "Manor House" stands on the old site, and when it was built "some ancient and strong foundations were taken up."<sup>1</sup> It must have been a convenient centre for working the western part of the diocese.

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#### BISHOP-WILTON.

Bishop-Wilton is four miles from Pocklington in the East Riding. Drake says that the Manor was given to the Archbishops by King Athelstan. Little seems to be known about it, though they must have had a house on the estate by Gray's time, for he was often there, and fifty-two of his documents bear the date. Wickwaine<sup>2</sup> was there in 1283, Romanus<sup>3</sup> in 1289, and Greenfield<sup>4</sup> in 1310 received a "bull" respecting the election of the Dean of York "in Capella de Wylton." In the twelfth century it is said to have been the scene of one of S. William's many miracles, the healing of a blind woman.<sup>5</sup> It was seized by Henry VIII and never restored. The house probably soon became a ruin. Its site, with the lines of the old moat, may still be traced, and is to be found in the ordnance map. About forty years ago some of the old foundations were dug up.

(1) Whitaker's "Loidis," p. 191.

(2) Raine's "Historians," iii., p. 210.

(3) "Ibid," iii., p. 215.

(4) "Ibid," iii., p. 233.

(5) "Ibid," ii., p. 537.

## BISHOP-BURTON.

Bishop-Burton is a village about three miles west of Beverley. When it became the property of the See, I have been unable to discover. It was previously known as South Burton, the scene of one of S. John of Beverley's miracles. Going there to dedicate the Parish Church, he is said to have been entertained by the owner of the village, an Earl of the name of Puck, whose wife was dangerously ill, but was cured by drinking holy water given to her by the saint. When the Archbishops took to residing here the name was changed to Bishop-Burton. Only six of Gray's documents bear the date. John Romanus, who became Archbishop in 1286, died here suddenly on March 11th, 1296, and was buried in the Minster. The foundations of the old house may still be traced in a field called "Knight Garth," but the site is wrongly marked in the new ordnance map. The property was granted to Henry VIII in 1542 by Archbishop Lee, along with various other manors, in exchange for certain monastic estates.

The story of the house at Bishopthorpe has already been told, and we come now to the residences outside Yorkshire, beginning with London.

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YORK PLACE.

The Archbishop of York's chief London house was York Place in Westminster, bought by Walter Gray from Hubert de Burgh in 1244. It remained in the possession of the Northern Primates until Wolsey's fall, when it was



seized by Henry VIII and became a Royal Palace, under the better known name of Whitehall.

"You must no more call it York Place, that's past ;  
For since the Cardinal fell, that title's lost :  
'Tis now the King's, and called Whitehall."<sup>1</sup>

Its after history is well known, and does not concern us here. It was succeeded by Suffolk Place in Southwark, the property of Lady Jane Gray's father, the Duke of Suffolk, which after her attainder was given by Queen Mary to the See. Archbishop Heath obtained permission to sell it, that he might buy instead the house of the Bishops of Norwich in the Strand. This became "York House," and belonged to the Archbishops until 1622, though it was generally let. Sir Nicolas Bacon became the tenant, and here his famous son, Lord Bacon, was born on January 22nd, 1561, and lived for some years afterwards when he was Lord Chancellor. In 1622 Archbishop Toby Matthew, to please the Duke of Buckingham, exchanged it with the King for the Crown manors of Beckhay, Acomb and Sancton. It afterwards became famous as the residence of the two Dukes of Buckingham. The second Duke sold the house in 1672 to a brewer, who pulled it down and laid out the site in the well-known streets.<sup>2</sup>

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#### BATTERSEA.

The Archbishops had a second London house at Battersea. The manor, with four hundred acres, was

(1) Shakespeare's "Henry VIII," iv., 1.

(2) Villiers Street and Buckingham Street.

bought by Archbishop L. Booth, "de quodam Stanley," in 1477. He built a house on the property, which he left to the See, making the Dean and Chapter of York trustees, as was the case with Bishopthorpe. It does not appear to have been often used by the owners, and little is known about it except the tradition that Wolsey entertained Anne Boleyn there. Holgate seems to have lived there, for when he was sent to the Tower in 1553 the house was rifled<sup>a</sup> and found well stored with gold, silver and jewels, doubtless the profits of his nefarious transactions with Henry. Still more of his treasure was found in Cawood Castle at the same time, with stores of Church vestments and plate. The house was called "York House" up to the last century, and there is still a "York Road" in Battersea, presumably close by.

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CHURCHDOWN (near Cheltenham) and ODDINGTON  
(near Stow-on-the-Wold).

It is a far cry from York to Gloucestershire, and curious to find that the Northern Primates held eight manors in that county. But it was, until the Reformation, part of the Diocese of Worcester, and this is really the key to the difficulty. S. Oswald (972-992) and his two successors had been allowed to hold the two Sees of Worcester and York at the same time, and this had established a close and peculiar relation between them. Aldred also, after having the See of Worcester granted

(1) Cf. Raine's "Historians," ii., p. 438.

(2) Cf. Strype's "Cranmer," vol. i., p. 440 (Edition, 1812).

to him for his life by Edward the Confessor, was translated to York in 1060. He had spent large sums of money in rebuilding Gloucester Abbey, and when he found the Archbishopric but poorly endowed (in consequence of Danish inroads), he appropriated twelve manors from his old southern diocese as a kind of mortgage for his expenditure on the Abbey. His interest in them was only for life, and they should have been restored to Worcester at his death, when they passed with the York estates into the King's hands. There was a fierce dispute on the matter in the time of Aldred's successor, Thomas, who at last in 1095 resigned them to Worcester along with all claim on that diocese. The Archbishops, however, were not satisfied, and the Gloucester Cartulary tells how the controversy smouldered on. In 1151 the case was referred to the Roman Curia, which appointed three arbitrators, with the result that eight of the manors were restored to York, and remained in possession of the Archbishops until the Reformation. It was necessary that they should reside occasionally in Gloucestershire to look after this property, and to visit S. Oswald's Priory, over which they had jurisdiction. For this purpose they had houses at Churchdown and Oddington, where many of their documents in the York Registers are dated. They were surrendered, with the other six manors, to Henry VIII by Holgate, and were both granted by Edward VI to Sir Thomas Chamberlain, in whose family they remained for several generations.<sup>1</sup> Part of the old Manor House still remains at Oddington, now a farm building. Seven of Archbishop Gray's documents are dated there, and twenty at Churchdown.

(1) Atkyn's "Gloucestershire."

## SCROOBY.

The Archbishops had at least three residences in their Nottingham Archdeaconry, at Scrooby, Laneham and Southwell. Scrooby is in the extreme north of the county, near to Bawtry, a hamlet in the parish of Sutton, on the great north road. I cannot find by whom the property was given to the See; it was probably the benefaction of one of the Saxon Kings, for it is mentioned in Domesday Book. In mediæval times it was one of the Archbishops' most favourite residences, and in Gray's register ranks next to Cawood, no less than seventy of his documents being dated there, some in almost every year of his long episcopate. Thoroton,<sup>1</sup> writing in the reign of Charles II, says that the house had been "far greater and better than Southwell" until Archbishop Sandys' time. It was surrendered to Henry VIII, to whom, however, we must give the credit of buying it back again for the See in 1552.<sup>2</sup> The Archbishops never seem to have used it as a regular residence after the Reformation. It was leased with the park for many years to members of the Sandys family, who allowed it to fall into decay, and some of them were still tenants in Sharp's time. A clause in his lease gives us an interesting peep into the archiepiscopal manner of travelling at the beginning of the eighteenth century. It runs as follows:—"The tenant to provide rooms and lodging for the Archbishop and twelve of his servants, and stable-room and hay for fourteen horses, for one day and a night

(1) Throsby's Edition of Thoroton's "History of Notts.," vol iii., p. 439.

(2) C/. Strype's "Eccl. Mem.," ii., pt. 2, p. 77.

once a quarter, if the Archbishop comes thither." This would be on his way to London. I am told that there are hardly any traces of the old house left.

There was a hospital close by, in the patronage of the Archbishops, called S. Mary Magdalen-juxta-Bawtry, about which a lawsuit arose between John Slack, who had been collated to the mastership by Toby Matthew, and certain persons in possession, who tried to keep him out. The master won his case before the Barons of the Exchequer, "octavo Jacobi," *i.e.* 1610, and at the request of Archbishop Neile some years later, wrote an account of the hospital and of the whole affair, which is printed in Hearne's "Peter Langtoft."

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#### LANEHAM.

Laneham is on the river Trent, about twelve miles west of Lincoln. The Archbishops had a house on the estate and were often there, judging by the registers, for more than forty of Gray's documents bear the date. Archbishop Corbridge died here in 1303.

"Ad Lanum in Domino præsul obdormurt,"<sup>1</sup> says the old metrical chronicle. This, however, is all that I have been able to discover of its history. There are no traditions left in the parish, and county histories are silent. The property remained in the hands of the Archbishops, and Sharp describes it leased in his time

(1) Sharp's "MSS."

(2) Vol. ii., p. 389.

(3) Raine's "Historians," vol. ii., p. 483.

like Scrooby, to members of the Sandys family. He does not mention the house, which had probably been allowed to become ruinous in the sixteenth century, if not before.

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SOUTHWELL.

The lordship of Southwell is said to have been given to Archbishop Oskytel and his successors in 958. The importance of the Minster naturally made it desirable for them to reside there from time to time, and their house probably stood from the first on the site of the present ruins, immediately south of the Church. Archbishop Alfric died here in 1051, and Gerard died "suddenly in his garden at Southwell" in 1108. Corbridge, Kempe, the two Booths, Rotherham, Wolsey and Sandys, are all said to have had a share in building the house. Rotherham added the kitchens; Kempe almost entirely rebuilt the whole.

"In Suthwell manerium fecit pretiosum,  
Multis artificibus valde sumphrosum."<sup>1</sup>

His arms were to be seen on a shield in the hall as late as 1818. Rastall gives a print of the ruins in 1787, and says:—"Even in ruins it retains much of its ancient grandeur, and from them we may still discover how spacious and magnificent a dwelling it has been. The rooms of state were to the east, the lodging apartments to the south. On the west were the offices, and the north was occupied principally by the Chapel and the great hall, the latter of which is the only part now remaining entire. This surviving specimen has lost much of its beauty by being converted

(1) "Metrical Chronicle," printed in Raine's "Historians," vol. ii., p. 486.

into a dwelling-house."<sup>1</sup> It was surrendered by Lee to the King and given to the Duke of Northumberland, but at his attainder re-granted by Mary to the See. The Arch-Puritan Sandys was the last Archbishop to live here, and it seems to have been his favourite residence. It was almost destroyed by the Parliamentary troops about 1646. How Bishop Trollope bought it from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, wishing to recover the old residence for the new Bishop of Southwell, is a matter of recent history.

It is possible that the above list is far from being complete. The Archbishops certainly had a house at Beverley as I have been informed by Canon Nolloth, and possibly at Patrington, where they were lords of the manor, though no traces nor traditions of the latter remain. It is curious that they should have had no residence in the northern part of Yorkshire. When the rest of the splendid collection of archiepiscopal registers which lie waiting at York are edited, as Raine edited that of Walter Gray, stores of fresh information will be open to those who are interested in this and other more important subjects connected with the Church of the North. They begin with the year 1225 and are complete up to the present time, with only one gap of ten years, 1256-1266. It is to be hoped that before long someone will be found to take up the mantle of the much-missed Chancellor Raine, and devote himself to carrying on his work. Meantime, this short record may help to give some idea of one part of the life and duties of a mediæval bishop, and to show how great a burden has been taken off the shoulders of modern prelates by the Ecclesiastical Commission.

(1) Rastall's "History of Southwell," p. 345. (Edition, 1787.)

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THE END.

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